

Advanced Energy Systems 65 Centennial Lp. Suite A Eugene, Oregon 97401 www.AESrenew.com

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources Oregon State Capitol 900 Court St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301

February 7, 2025

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and Levy, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Eric Nill, I am the owner and principal of Advanced Energy Systems a solar contracting company of two dozen skilled professional based in Eugene, Oregon. Last year we celbrated our twentith year serving the entire State constructing sustainable and resiliant solar power and backup energy systems.

Since its inception, the Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program has provided much needed incentives for a breadth of residential and community based organizations to go solar with many also adding vital power backup energy systems. These clients range from MacKenzie River Valley families rebuiling following devastating forest fires to low-income housing developers throughout the State.

This program has made projects possible to the benefit of those most in need of the assitence. It also meshes with the global objectives of reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and lessening the environmental impacts inherent in our current energy economy.

Please consider restoring this program with a minimum of \$20 million dollars to ensure a meaningful and consistent program that helps eliminate uncertainty for our business and better enables us to develop our workforce.

Adequate funding for the Solar + Storage Rebate Program will help Oregon families access clean energy, survive dangerous grid power interruptions and sustain the hundreds of jobs in our growing industry.

Sincerely,

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Eric Nill, Principal Advanced Energy Systems, LLC 65 Centennial Lp. Suite A Eugene, OR 97401 <u>eric@aesrenew.com</u>