



February 10, 2025

TO: Oregon Senate Energy and Environment Committee

RE: Opposition to SB 685

Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee;

The Oregon State Association of Electrical Workers is comprised of all seven IBEW Locals across the State, and represents over 10,000 electricians and apprentices in Oregon, and Ironworkers Local 29 represents over 3,000 working men and women in the State. We are writing in opposition to Senate Bill 685, and the negative impact it will have on the development of renewable energy technology in the Oregon.

We believe the base bill would effectively kill hydrogen development in Oregon with additional onerous standards to development. These go beyond existing oversight processes and would set Oregon behind other states for coming hydrogen development. The -1 amendment to SB 685 makes strides in the right direction, but we believe it is still in need of further refinement with input from affected industry partners to ensure that it doesn't hamper development of the hydrogen industry.

Our workforce will build much of the energy infrastructure of the future, and we must promote and help development of proven and new technologies and strategies. SB 685 counters these efforts, and we ask for your opposition.

Please use us as a resource, and we hope to be helpful however we can.