Testimony to Senate Committee on Energy and Environment Support for SB 1143

March 16, 2025

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr. Daniel Frye, I am part of MCAT (Mobilizing Climate Action Together), a community of volunteers working to advance a healthy climate and a successful green economy for future generations.

I write today in strong support of SB 1143 because it provides an effective, technically feasible and profitable path forward for our natural gas utilities to participate in a clean energy future. Designing, deploying, and maintaining Thermal Energy Networks (TENS) will utilize the current business model and customer knowledge of our natural gas utilities as well as the technical expertise of the existing workforce. Starting pilot projects at scale across as many natural gas utilities that choose to participate is a good way to both acquire broad expertise and accelerate the eventual widespread deployment of this technology.

There is much to learn here, we should start now.

I urge support of SB 1143 by the Committee.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Frye, PhD MCAT (Mobilizing Climate Action Together)