

Submitter: Tate Justesen
On Behalf Of: Myself as a landowner in Sherman and Wasco Co.
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1034

Dear Chair, Vice-Chairs, and members of the Committee:

My family has been farming/ranching/stewarding land in Sherman County, Oregon for five (5) generations, going on the 6th (which is being raised on the ranch now). We believe that alternative energy development, including solar and wind power, represents a significant opportunity for our communities, our counties, our State, and our family(ies).

First, I want to state that I respect and appreciate Senator Nash's work on behalf of his constituents.

However, I oppose SB 1034 because it could inject an unacceptable/problematic amount of subjectivity into the energy project siting process.

I am concerned about SB 1034, and I oppose SB 1034, because I believe that, if adopted, it could become a vehicle for counties to eliminate and/or severely restrict alternative energy development based on problematic bases such as misinformation, personal biases against alternative energy, NIMBY-ism, and non-science/non-objective bases.

I say this as someone who generally supports the idea of maximizing, where reasonable, local governance on issues that directly affect the people in the local communities in Oregon. In this specific instance, I do NOT believe SB 1034 is the correct path for Oregon. SB 1034 is not a correct path for our small communities/counties that rely financially on alternative energy development, it is not a correct path for my family, and it is not a correct path for me personally as a landowner who is concerned about potential infringement on my private property rights.

I oppose SB 1034 because I am concerned it will effectuate an infringement on my private property rights and contractual rights as a landowner to enter into an agreement with energy development companies and to recognize benefits from energy development on my own land.

I oppose SB 1034 because it represents yet another procedural administrative hurdle and complication in alternative energy siting. SB 1034 could inject even more statewide arbitrary/capricious/uncertain decision making into the energy project siting process. The process does not need more complication. The process does not need

to be more burdensome - SB 1034 could very well create more burden, more complication, and more subjectivity.

I urge the committee to vote against SB 1034.

Thank you.

Tate Justesen

Landowner, Sherman County & Wasco County (Oregon)