



April 24, 2025

Chair Sollman
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 3863

Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee,

Oregon must put all viable clean energy resources on the table to meet the HB 2021 targets and accelerate our clean energy transition. Raising the threshold for solar QFs from 3 MWs to 10 MWs to achieve parity with the threshold for wind QFs is a critical step to unlocking additional renewable energy capacity. Climate Solutions strongly supports HB 3863. Climate Solutions is a clean energy nonprofit organization working to accelerate solutions to the climate crisis. The Northwest has emerged as a hub of climate action, and Climate Solutions is at the center of the movement as a catalyst and advocate.

In order to realize the full value of solar qualifying facilities under PURPA, we need to raise the avoided cost rate threshold to be consistent with the threshold for wind. This would set the threshold for avoided costs and standard contracts to projects 10 MW in size. Solar qualifying facilities are an important part of our clean energy portfolio, and should have parity with wind.

This bill will help small solar projects get built in Oregon. For farmers, landowners, and small developers building renewable energy projects on their property, PURPA eligibility confers significant benefits, including use of a standard contract, avoiding negotiations with large utilities, and an “avoided cost” rate that enables project owners to secure financing for the development. These benefits exist to encourage small facilities to be developed by helping them reduce costs and achieve financial viability. HB 3863 will open new opportunities for small solar facilities. We urge your yes vote.

Sincerely,

Joshua Basofin

Joshua Basofin
Clean Energy Program Director
Climate Solutions