

Dear Senator Sollman and members of the Energy and Environment Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 3681 which will streamline and expedite the process for permitting clean electricity power plants and transmission lines. It is clear from multiple studies that a climate change of more than 2° C over preindustrial levels would cause catastrophic environmental damage. According to the projections I've read, the best and perhaps only hope for preventing such a disaster is to electrify our energy system as fast as possible and to convert it to renewable sources of electricity. HB 3681 takes a small but important step in that direction by reducing unproductive delays in the permitting process, while still allowing ample time for consideration of the impact of new renewable electricity generation or transmission of the renewable energy to users. A concerted effort to construct new clean generation and to increase the capacity and resilience of the electrical grid is essential for ensuring a healthy future for the planet and the people who inhabit it, and HB 3681 is an important part of that effort. Please support it and move it to a floor vote.

Sincerely,

Gary Reiness