June 2, 2025

Chair Jama
Senate Committee on Rules
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Opposition to SB 1034

Chair Jama and Members of the Committee,

The urgency of the climate crisis requires the responsible siting of renewable energy facilities as rapidly as possible to hasten our state's clean energy transition. SB 1034 adds a layer of complexity to siting future energy projects that is likely to increase project costs and create delays. **For these reasons, Climate Solutions strongly opposes SB 1034.** 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.

The Energy Facility Siting Council's (EFSC) current practice is to coordinate closely with local jurisdictions through a process that balances statewide energy goals with local land use planning requirements. EFSC accomplishes this by holding public meetings and hearings where local governments and communities have an opportunity to comment on land use concerns. Local government bodies also have an opportunity to submit official comments, and their input is considered in EFSC's final decision.

SB 1034 would remove EFSC's ability to consider statewide planning goals in tandem with local land use plans and regulations. This significant change in EFSC's process will produce several problematic outcomes:
- Introduces additional delays: permitting energy facilities in Oregon can take years and if passed, SB 1034 will require developers to navigate conflicting jurisdictional regulations and increased legal disputes.
- Hamstrings EFSC's ability to consider projects utilizing a holistic and statewide lens.
- Disincentivizes energy development in Oregon by further complicating an already challenging permitting landscape.

For all these reasons, we urge your nay vote on SB 1034.

Sincerely,

Joshua Basofin

Joshua Basofin
Clean Energy Program Director
Climate Solutions