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Thursday, May 5th 2011 before the joint Committee on Tax Credits

Regarding Residential Energy Tax Credits (RETC) SB 688 & HB 2522

Presenting for Advanced Energy Systems of Eugene, Oregon is Craig Strobeck – General Manager.

- Advanced Energy Systems (AES) is a home grown Oregon based Solar Integrator. We install both commercial and residential solar eclectic systems. AES employs 27 full time employees at skilled labor wages.
- AES has been in business since 2002, and has installed hundreds of solar electric systems. We train our employees to succeed in the renewable energy sector. We participate in the Electrician apprentice training program matching an apprentice with a company employed journeymen. Once the apprentice reaches journeymen, our process has been to add another apprentice to that new journeyman thus providing increased opportunities to our workers. We work with local community colleges, and support local community organizations.
- Since our sole business is in Solar systems, any legislation that reduces demand for our services puts our company and our employees, and their families at risk. Other similar companies face similar risks.
- Our experience shows that the RETC is a catalyst for homeowners in deciding to invest in a clean energy generation project. Our clients see the benefits of lower energy bills, and the protection against ever escalating energy prices. Any power produced by a home residential system will be more valuable as energy prices rise.
- In the past 12 months we have seen an incredible interest, and increased demand from the residential homeowner. They realize that they can do something to offset their energy usage, and are willing to invest in renewable energy. We do not want to see that demand slowed.
- We source Oregon made components, and we return the dollars spent with our company to the local economy in the form of wages, payroll taxes, local transit taxes and employee benefits, such as health, dental and vision coverage.
- We support the RETC, as it helps Oregonians save money, creates jobs and contributes to the tax base of the state.
- Supporting RETC allows us to increase our business, and add jobs. Failure to support current RETC programs can mean a loss of skilled labor jobs. While creating jobs is important, keeping the jobs already created must be an important consideration also.

Thank you for your time,

Craig Strobeck
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