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Testimony to the Oregon Joint Tax Credit Committee in SUPPORT of the Business Energy Tax Credit program.

Alan Hickenbottom, General Manager  
Tanner Creek Energy – a division of Christenson Electric

Members of the committee – many thanks for this opportunity to testify in support of Oregon's landmark Business Energy Tax Credit program. My name is Alan Hickenbottom and I am the General Manager of Tanner Creek Energy, now a division of Christenson Electric, one of the state's largest electrical firms. Founded 66 years ago in Portland and still locally owned and managed, we employ over 300 union and non-union workers. Tanner Creek Energy's acquisition by this respected firm is great example of the value and impact of the Business Energy Tax Credit program. Our combined firms have participated in every facet of the BETC programs – installing PV systems, lighting upgrades, EV charging systems – that's building new energy sources (Gennie), installing efficiency measures (Connie) and providing electrical construction services to clean tech manufacturers (Mannie).

As with any innovative program, it won't bat 1000. However, the vast majority of BETC assisted projects have brought the promised benefits and more – energy production and savings, job creation and carbon reduction. Through leveraging the BETC, the renewable energy industry alone has contributed \$5.4B to Oregon's economy. So, while we understand that funding is extremely tight this session, we urge you to continue the program with what funding might be available – allowing the program to expand and further benefit the state as the economy improves.

Thank you again for your time and attention to this important issue.