



Testimony by Martin J. Shain for Ways and Means Natural Resources Subcommittee
Re: Department of Energy – House Bill 5011
February 20, 2013

The Committee on Ways & Means
Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Re: Department of Energy – House Bill 5011

Distinguished Co-Chairs, and members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Martin Shain and I am a co-founder and managing partner of BacGen Energy Engineering. For the past 15 years, BacGen has served Oregon's public agencies, special districts and higher education systems, dedicated to the design, cost-efficient procurement and implementation of energy efficiency and renewables projects.

During this period of time, our firm has implemented projects with over 100 municipalities and special districts, and many of Oregon's universities and community colleges. Due to the extremely challenging budget constraints felt by all public agencies, we have worked hand-in-hand with our clients to identify and procure incentives and grants for these projects. Perhaps more importantly, we have been able to leverage available federal funds in nearly every case – placing \$ millions in federal incentives to work in our state, saving energy and creating jobs. These public agency projects have experienced over 20,000 MWh/year in direct energy savings, lessening the burden on our state's citizens to shoulder the cost of ever increasing energy expenses, while growing the presence of clean energy solutions.

Throughout each of these projects we have relied upon and received critical guidance and assistance from the Department of Energy, its management and staff. The Department of Energy has been absolutely instrumental in these and hundreds of other projects in our state, most of which would have been impossible without ODOE expertise and support.

I respectfully ask that you move forward with funding commitments enabling the Department of Energy to continue, and grow its efforts in Oregon. Energy projects are typically long-term in nature, and the continuity of access to permanent, highly skilled staff will pay dividends for years to come, as will prudently administered incentive programs, which are now in place.

Please accept my thanks for your efforts and consideration on behalf of my firm and our public agency clients in Oregon. I am sincerely hopeful that this hearing will serve to underline the extraordinary value brought to our state and its citizens by the Department of Energy, its dedicated leadership and staff.

Sincerely,

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