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March 1, 2015

Chair Jessica Vega-Pederson, House Energy and Environment Committee

Re: HB 2745 and HB 2941

Dear Committee Chair:

HB 2745 and HB 2941 is an opportunity for Oregon to make local clean solar energy accessible to all Oregonians. Thank you for your consideration of the legislation. I strongly encourage you and your committee to pass these bills.

HB 2745 - Solar Feed-In-Tariff - The original pilot program has helped our business install systems at churches, breweries, retreat centers and farms. Since the investment return does not rely on tax credits, organizations that do not pay taxes can install solar and receive a decent return on investment. The extension and expansion of this program will certainly benefit those who do not have tax liability, and keep our employees, suppliers, manufacturers (we use Oregon-made SolarWorld) and everyone in the supply chain busy helping to solarize Oregon.

HB 2951 - Community Solar Gardens - would open access to solar energy allowing anyone, regardless of whether or not they can put solar panels on their roof, to own and control their own renewable energy generation. We run into a lot of people with too much shading or who do not own their property that will be able to invest in solar when this bill passes.

From its expansive eastern solar plains to the power hungry Willamette Valley, Oregon is a beautiful place to live. We should continue to use and expand solar power in Oregon through opportunities like the solar Feed-in-Tariff and Community Solar Gardens.

I support both of these bills fully and would appreciate your work to pass them both in committee and in the full House. Thank you for your service.

Sunny Regards,

James Reismiller
Owner,
Abundant Solar LLC