

March 2, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in support of HB2745 which would extend the FIT pilot program for solar PV installations.

In recent years, Gerding Edlen has worked with several school districts to implement third-party financed solar using the FIT program. With the low electric rates in our region, incentives such as the FIT are needed to make projects financially attractive to building owners and developers. The FIT can give owners and developers of solar installations a viable financial alternative to the traditional utility incentives available through the Energy Trust of Oregon, particularly where long-term financing is needed.

We are strong supporters of renewable energy and programs such as the FIT that are tailored to smaller residential and commercial installations (under 500 kW). We are working diligently to identify a model whereby we could achieve net zero in our market-rate multifamily developments in an economically viable manner. Renewable energy incentives are critical to making these types of projects a reality.

Promoting the transition to a renewable energy economy has been a priority for Oregon for many years; please support the extension of the FIT pilot program to show our continued support for renewable energy development in our state.

Sincerely,



Mark Edlen, CEO



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