



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Charlie Hales, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Steve Novick, Commissioner

March 25, 2015

Senator Chris Edwards, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Committee:

We write in support of SB 477 and the transition away from coal toward clean energy sources.

Currently, approximately one third of the power used in homes and businesses in Oregon comes from coal-burning plants. Aging coal plants will require Oregonians to have to help pay for hundreds of million dollar upgrades for required pollution controls. It is a better choice to invest in new clean energy that helps to provide local jobs and economic investment across the country and reduces carbon emissions.

The City of Portland has been working to reduce its carbon footprint for more than 20 years and we have achieved encouraging results. Portland's current Climate Action Plan is designed to put Portland and Multnomah County on a path to reduce carbon emissions 40 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050 (compared to 1990 levels). The Plan builds upon a legacy of forward-thinking climate protection initiatives by the City of Portland and Multnomah County that have resulted in significant total and per person reductions in local carbon emissions.

Coal to Clean will help further reduce carbon emissions, foster cleaner air and promote clean energy technologies. We urge your support for SB 477.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales
Mayor

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Steve Novick
Commissioner