



BUSINESS for INNOVATIVE  
CLIMATE & ENERGY POLICY  
*a project of Ceres*

## From the Desk of Representative Helm

February 4, 2016

BICEP Members:

Annie's Inc.  
Aspen Skiing  
Company  
Autodesk  
Aveda  
Avon Products  
Ben & Jerry's  
Burton Snowboards  
CA Technologies  
Clif Bar  
Dignity Health  
eBay Inc.  
Eileen Fisher  
Gap Inc.  
General Mills  
IKEA USA  
JLL  
KB Home  
Kellogg Company  
Levi Strauss & Co.  
L Brands  
L'Oreal  
Mars Incorporated  
Nestle  
New Belgium  
Brewing  
**Nike, Inc.**  
The North Face  
Outdoor Industry  
Association  
Owens Corning  
Patagonia  
**Portland Trail  
Blazers**  
Seventh Generation  
Starbucks  
Stonyfield Farm  
Symantec  
Timberland  
Unilever  
VF Corporation  
Vulcan, Inc.

*Bold indicates  
companies based  
in Oregon*

Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Support for House Bill 4036**

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature:

As a coalition of 38 major companies across the United States—many of which have a major presence in Oregon—Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP) strongly supports House Bill 4036 (2016), the Oregon Clean Electricity and Coal Transition Plan.

BICEP members are energy users that recognize both the importance of tackling climate change and the opportunities presented by clean energy. Given the clear market signals afforded by the recent Paris climate agreement and the federal Clean Power Plan, it is encouraging to see Oregon's environmental groups and utilities coming together to forge practical solutions to the climate-energy challenge.

BICEP members and other leading businesses are increasingly looking for renewable energy opportunities not only to meet their renewable energy and greenhouse gas reduction goals but also because clean energy makes economic sense. A [new Lazard report](#) shows that wind and solar energy are now less expensive than natural gas and significantly less expensive than coal. Purchasing renewable energy also helps to ward off the price volatility inherent in fossil fuel energy sources.

Oregon's largest utilities are on track to reach the state's current renewable portfolio standard (RPS) of 25 percent by 2025. [Analysis](#) conducted by Pacific Power shows the new proposal would increase electricity rates by less than 1 percent per year between now and 2030. As an alternative to the proposed ballot measures, Pacific Power estimates that the increased flexibility in HB 4036 would save it \$600 million through 2030.

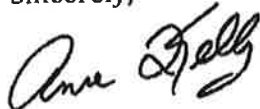
BICEP is grateful for Oregon's leadership in setting a greenhouse gas reduction goal of 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. Increasing Oregon's RPS to 50 percent by 2040—and eliminating coal from Oregon's energy mix by 2035, as outlined in HB 4036—aims to put utilities back on track to meet their share of the state's emissions goals<sup>1</sup>, attract new

investments in Oregon, encourage innovation and efficiency, and save businesses and homeowners money on their energy bills.

HB 4036 is a smart proposal. BICEP urges legislators to support this innovative policy that would expand clean energy and promote environmental sustainability that benefits all Oregonians.

Thank you for your consideration and your work to protect Oregon's climate and economy.

Sincerely,



Anne Kelly  
Director, Business for Innovative Climate & Energy Policy (BICEP)

Cc: Governor Kate Brown

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<sup>1</sup> According to the Oregon Global Warming Commission's Biennial Report to the Legislature (2015; [http://www.keeporegoncool.org/sites/default/files/ogwc-standard-documents/OGWC\\_Rpt\\_Leg\\_2015\\_final.pdf](http://www.keeporegoncool.org/sites/default/files/ogwc-standard-documents/OGWC_Rpt_Leg_2015_final.pdf)), "By 2035, absent significant additional intervention, the gap (between business-as-usual emissions and a linear trajectory to the 2050 goal) is likely to exceed 39 MMTe"—the goal the Legislature set for the state in that year.