



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

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***

February 4, 2016

Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1547

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 Senate Bill 1547 (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 SB 1547 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 SB 1547—aims to put utilities back on track to meet their share of the state's emissions goals¹, attract new

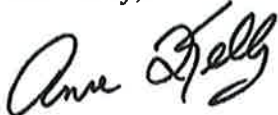
From the desk of Rep. Chris Gorsek:

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

SB 1547 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Kelly

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

Cc: Governor Kate Brown

¹ 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), "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.