

**Renewable Northwest
Members**

3Degrees
American Wind Energy Association
Avangrid Renewables
Bonneville Environmental
Foundation
Center for Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Technologies
Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon
Climate Solutions
Columbia Gorge
Community College
Community Renewable
Energy Association
Cypress Creek Renewables
DNV GL
EDF Renewable Energy
EDP Renewables
Environment Oregon
Environment Washington
Eurus Energy America
GE Energy
Geothermal Resources Council
Green Mountain Energy
HDR Engineering, Inc.
Idaho Conservation League
Invenergy
K&L Gates
Kapla Law PLLC
Latitude45 Associates
MAP
Montana Environmental
Information Center
MontPIRG
National Grid
Natural Resources
Defense Council
NextEra Energy Resources
Northwest Environmental
Business Council
Northwest SEED
NW Energy Coalition
OneEnergy Renewables
Oregon Solar Energy
Industries Association
OSPIRG
Oregon Tech
Orion Renewable Energy
Group LLC
Scout Clean Energy
Solar Oregon
Stoel Rives, LLP
SunPower Corporation
SWCA Environmental Consultants
Vestas Americas
Warm Springs Power &
Water Enterprises
Washington Environmental Council
WashPIRG
Western Resource Advocates

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March 16, 2017

TO: Senator Lew Frederick and Representative Brad Witt, Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Members, Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

FR: Rikki Seguin, Policy Director, Renewable Northwest

RE: Support of HB 5009

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and Witt:

Renewable Northwest is a regional, non-profit renewable energy advocacy organization based in Oregon. **We are pleased to support HB 5009 and encourage your approval of the Oregon Department of Energy proposed 2017-2019 budget.**

Our members are a combination of renewable energy businesses and environmental and consumer groups. We advocate for the expansion of environmentally responsible renewable energy resources in the Northwest through collaborations with government, industry, utilities, customers, and advocacy groups. Our organization shares a positive and productive relationship with the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) with the goal of ensuring that the benefits renewable resources bring to Oregon are fully realized. Renewable Northwest, together with energy stakeholders across the state, collaborates with ODOE in both the policy and regulatory arenas.

ODOE fills a crucial role in the study, design, and implementation of renewable energy policies in Oregon, and is uniquely qualified and positioned to help the state achieve its energy policy goals. The Department of Energy:

- Provides invaluable technical expertise, compliance advice, and creative leadership;
- Provides important and impartial data to help evaluate elements of new policies;
- Plays a distinct role implementing rulemaking and tracking compliance for the Renewable Portfolio Standard;
- Is an important hub of independent analysis and data about the technical aspects of renewable resources that contribute towards their value and efficacy;
- Provides quality participation in policy dockets before the Public Utility Commission; and
- The Energy Facilities Siting Council has developed expertise in carefully evaluating proposed renewable resources.

There is no other agency with expertise in each of these areas. ODOE's work is not only important in these specific areas, but it is critical to the development of a positive business climate for clean energy resources in the state.

We ask that the Subcommittee approve the Oregon Department of Energy proposed 2017-2019 budget, HB 5009, in order to maintain ODOE's place in providing top-notch technical and siting expertise, data collection, compliance advice, and participation in policy development. An adequately funded and equipped ODOE is a win for the climate, clean energy, and all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Rikki Seguin
Policy Director
Renewable Northwest