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March 23, 2017

Senator Lee Beyer
Chair, Business and Transportation Committee
Oregon State Legislature
Senate Committee on Business & Transportation
900 Court Street NE, S-411
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Local Business Support for Senate Bill 979

Dear Chair Beyer and members of Senate Committee on Business and Transportation:

I am writing on behalf of Capital Power Corporation to express our strong support for the “Renewable Direct Access” legislation proposed by the Northwest & Intermountain Power Producers Coalition (NIPPC). SB 979 permits nonresidential customers to leave their utility’s cost of service power and buy green energy directly from the market.

Capital Power Corporation (“Capital Power”) is an independent power producer that currently owns more than 3,200 megawatts of power generation across North America. In the U.S., Capital Power owns a solar and wind facility, two mixed biomass-fueled plants, and a development portfolio of solar and wind projects, including a solar and wind development site in Oregon.

SB 979 is good for local business as the renewable energy industry will create good paying jobs in construction, operation and manufacturing. The legislation will also boost economic development in rural Oregon as new renewable energy projects will generate millions in the form of tax revenue and make it easier for communities to attract new businesses tapping into local renewable resources.

Further, allowing eligible customers to choose their power supply will permit competition to drive down prices and increase environmental benefits for everyone. For these reasons, Capital Power urges you to vote in support of SB 979.

Thank you in advanced for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis Desmarais".

Dennis Desmarais
Capital Power

