


**From:** J C evoptions@outlook.com   
**Subject:** Renewable Energy for all Oregonians  
**Date:** March 17, 2017 at 11:48 AM  
**To:** Sen.LeeBeyer@oregonlegislature.gov  
**Cc:** Sen.ChuckThomsen@state.or.us, Sen.FredGirod@oregonlegislature.gov, Sen.RodMonroe@oregonlegislature.gov,  
Sen.ChuckRiley@oregonlegislature.gov



**March 17, 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:**

**Happy St. Patrick's Day to ye! Wish you all could be here in Lake County, (Oregon's most Renewable Energy County) to help us celebrate our Irish Traditions!**

**I am writing on behalf of my Hervford Brothers Building. (Listed on the National**

Register of Historic Places) to express 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.

**Good for Local Business.** Allowing businesses to choose Renewable Direct Access will spur construction and new green jobs hires. Businesses will be able to buy new solar, wind, biomass, small hydro and geothermal power, all of which can be found here in Oregon.

**Boost Economic Development.** Rural Oregon needs a “shot in the arm.” New power projects will add to host counties tax base and make it easier for these communities to attract new businesses tapping into local renewable resources.

**Good for the Environment.** Enabling businesses to “go green” for their power will reduce CO2 emissions and build new renewable power plants “above and beyond” that required by Oregon’s Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS).

**Good for Ratepayers.** SB 979 is written so that Renewable Direct Access will not affect ratepayers remaining on conventional utility service.

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

Further, I urge you to support the entire concept of Community Solar and giving all rate payers, not just commercial accounts access to renewable energy through FIT programs, micro-grids and allowing off-site energy generation solutions to our power needs!

Further, as an owner of Electric Vehicle Options, a company that markets low-speed electric utility vehicles ideal for universities and municipalities, I urge you to support legislation encouraging EV adoption in the Oregon workplace! Washington has provided good incentives to facilitate this transition away from fossil fuels. Oregon should be using these type vehicles in our State Parks, our Fish Hatcheries, Universities, and Correctional Facilities! ( We do have vehicles at Southern Oregon University and the University of Oregon!) They are Sustainable! They have a 15 year design life and pay for themselves in fuel and maintance savings!

Here is a good video of our vehicles in use at the Grand Cooley Dam on the Columbia River! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKxIakTzBH4>

Sincerely,

**John R. Cogar**  
541-417-1143

**Electric Vehicle Options  
and  
The Heryford Building**

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PO Box 549  
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