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Testimony to the House Energy and Environment Committee on House Bill 2133

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Oregon Environmental Council supports HB 2133 as amended. We were proud to support the underlying legislation, the Clean Electricity and Coal Transition bill last session, which makes important strides towards decarbonizing Oregon's electricity mix. Climate impacts are already being felt in Oregon, as evidenced by the most recent Oregon Climate Change Research Institute's 2017 Report to the Legislature. It verifies that human-caused climate change has contributed to more wild fires, loss of snowpack, and ocean acidification.¹

HB 2133 creates a straightforward clarification to the previous bill. As acknowledged last session, there needs to be an amendment adding a 20 MW capacity constraint for biomass-based energy that qualifies for the 8% small-scale renewable energy requirement. This capacity constraint currently applies to wind, solar, and other types of renewable energy. This amendment creates parity between the different renewable energy technologies that qualify as small-scale.

We urge a yes vote on HB 2133 to fix the small-scale biomass provision.

¹Dalton, M.M., K.D. Dello, L. Hawkins, P.W. Mote, and D.E. Rupp (2017) The Third Oregon Climate Assessment Report, Oregon Climate Change Research Institute, College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. Available at: http://www.occri.net/media/1042/ocar3_final_125_web.pdf. A two-page legislative summary can also be found here: http://www.occri.net/media/1041/ocar3_final_legsummary_125.pdf