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February 6, 2017

**TO:** Representative Ken Helm, Chair, House Committee on Energy and Environment Members, House Committee on Energy and Environment

FR: Rikki Seguin, Policy Director, Renewable Northwest

RE: Support of HB 2133 -2

Dear Chair Helm:

Renewable Northwest, a diverse member organization that is dedicated to the responsible development of renewable energy resources in Oregon and throughout the Pacific Northwest, is pleased to support HB 2133, a bill to promote diversity of resource types that can be used to comply with Oregon's small-scale renewable energy requirement.

Section 14 of SB 1547, passed in the 2016 legislative session, mandated that 8% of the aggregate electrical capacity of all electric companies that make sales of electricity to 25,000 or more retail electricity customers must come from small-scale renewable energy projects (20MW or less) *or* facilities that generate electricity using biomass that also generate thermal energy for a secondary purpose.

The legislation was passed with no cap on the contribution from the latter, biomass cogeneration facilities. In order to ensure that the 8% small-scale requirement is met with a diverse set of resources, it is essential that the contribution from biomass generation facilities be capped. Diversifying resource types and location is a critical part of integrating large amounts of renewables onto the grid.

HB 2133 aims to provide this solution and cap the contribution from biomass cogeneration facilities used to comply with Oregon's small-scale requirement.

Renewable Northwest hopes to see an amendment drafted to provide a technical clarification to the bill language. An amendment is needed to clarify that compliance with the 8% requirement is met with capacity, rather than electricity generated. We would be supportive of an amendment clarifying that only 20MW of capacity from a biomass cogeneration facility, regardless of the facility's total nameplate capacity, can be used to comply with the 8% requirement.

Renewable Northwest is pleased to support HB 2133 as an important step to help Oregon achieve a clean energy future.

Sincerely,

WashPIRG

Western Resource Advocates

Rikki Seguin Policy Director Renewable Northwest