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To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB1507 Clean Energy Jobs Bill Written Testimony
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SB1507, Clean Energy Jobs bill - written testimony

Attention Senators,

Oregon's leadership on climate protection is needed now more than ever before. Last summer, Oregon had significant wildfires that affected air quality and threatened many homes, farms, and businesses. Dense smoke affected my family and neighbors along the McKenzie River. Many lives were turned upside down. Wildfire smoke is dangerous for people with respiratory conditions like asthma and COPD, as well as heart disease.

Lane County will experience more fires, reduced snowpack, drought and other severe weather events, like the ice storm, as global temperatures continue to increase. The impacts of climate change can no longer be ignored; the solutions no longer delayed. Now is the time to act.

We can no longer wait for federal action to protect our climate. Our leadership and success will drive other states to act on climate change. Just as last year's law to get Oregon off of coal, the first in the nation of its kind, has created a policy model for other states to follow, we need to keep moving forward despite the difficult road ahead.

Climate change remains an ever present threat. In Eugene, we're already seeing the impacts. The McKenzie River is a major source of drinking water for our community, and with temperatures continuing to rise each year, this important source of water is becoming scarcer. A study by OSU scientists in 2013 predicted that the snowpack which feeds into the river could drop by 56 percent between 2040 and 2060. Since that study, NASA has found 2014 and 2015 to be the hottest years on record - with 2016 expected to top them.

We're no longer talking about climate change impacting our children and grandchildren; these climate realities are going to be seen in our lifetime. As a dad and Lane County resident, I urge the Oregon Legislature to pass the Clean Energy Jobs bill in 2018 -- a bill to price pollution and invest in solutions that will help Lane County.

Sincerely,



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