

**Renewable Northwest  
Members**

3Degrees  
7Skyline, LLC  
174 Power Global  
American Wind Energy Association  
Avangrid Renewables  
Bonneville Environmental  
Foundation  
Center for Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Technologies  
Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon  
Climate Solutions  
Columbia Gorge  
Community College  
Community Renewable  
Energy Association  
Cypress Creek Renewables  
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP  
DNV GL  
EDF Renewable Energy  
EDP Renewables  
Environment Oregon  
Environment Washington  
Erica Nist-Lund, Attorney  
Eurus Energy America  
EverPower  
Geothermal Resources Council  
Green Mountain Energy  
HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Idaho Conservation League  
Invenergy  
K&L Gates  
Kapla Law PLLC  
Latitude45 Associates  
MAP  
Montana Environmental  
Information Center  
MontPIRG  
National Grid  
Natural Resources  
Defense Council  
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Northwest Environmental  
Business Council  
NW Energy Coalition  
OneEnergy Renewables  
Oregon Solar Energy  
Industries Association  
OSPIRG  
Oregon Tech  
Orion Renewable Energy Group  
Scout Clean Energy  
Sempra Renewables  
Solar Oregon  
Spark Northwest  
Stoel Rives, LLP  
Sulus Solar  
SunPower Corporation  
SWCA Environmental Consultants  
Tetra Tech  
Vestas Americas  
Warm Springs Power &  
Water Enterprises  
Washington Environmental Council  
WashPIRG  
Western Resource Advocates

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**Renewable  
Northwest**

February 5, 2018

**TO:** Senator Lee Beyer, Chair, Senate Committee on  
Business and Transportation  
Members, Senate Committee on Business and Transportation

**FR:** Rikki Seguin, Policy Director, Renewable Northwest

**RE:** Oregon Department of Energy legislative proposals

Dear Chair Beyer:

Renewable Northwest is a regional, non-profit renewable energy advocacy organization based in Oregon, dedicated to the responsible development of renewable energy resources throughout the Pacific Northwest. Our members are a combination of renewable energy businesses and environmental and consumer groups.

Our organization shares a positive and productive relationship with the Oregon Department of Energy (the Department) with the goal of ensuring that the benefits renewable resources bring to Oregon are fully realized. Renewable Northwest, together with energy stakeholders across the state, collaborates with the Department in both the policy and regulatory arenas. The Department fills a crucial role in the study, design, and implementation of renewable energy policies in Oregon, and is uniquely qualified and positioned to help the state achieve its energy policy goals.

The electricity sector is undergoing rapid and dramatic changes, including changes in the available technologies and suppliers, customer preferences for being supplied with different resources or combinations of resources, and the ability of different resources to interact together on the grid. Customers in Oregon and elsewhere are increasingly looking to support investments in clean, renewable energy and complementary technologies, like energy storage. Now more than ever, we need an agency focused on the future.

As we consider legislation modifying the scope and vision of the Department, Renewable Northwest is committed to policies that are forward-looking and recognize the Department today rather than a Department of the past. Any new advisory body must be comprised of parties with expertise on the subject areas of the Department and are committed to looking forward. This advisory body be visionary and should recognize the progress the Department has made over recent years. As the Department executes on the state's clean energy vision and implements policies in line with this, one seat of the advisory board should include an expert in renewable energy.

Any new legislation should also recognize the budget requirements of an agency with such a scope during this changing time of energy policy and regulation. No legislation should hamper the Department's ability to do good work in a measured and meaningful way. Funding should be responsible and robust.

Renewable Northwest looks forward to additional conversations about ways to support the Department and its important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rikki Seguin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rikki Seguin  
Policy Director  
Renewable Northwest