



To: Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
House Committee on Energy and Environment
From: Cheryle A. Kennedy, Chair, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Date: February 5, 2018
Subject: Clean Energy Bill (SB 1507 / HB 4001)

Chair Dembrow, Chair Helm, Vice-Chair Olsen, Vice-Chair Baertschiger, Vice-Chair Power, Vice-Chair Reschke and Members of the Committees:

My name is Cheryle A. Kennedy, I am the Chair of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, thank you very much for the opportunity to testify today regarding the Clean Energy Bills (SB 1507 and HB 4001).

As a Treaty Tribe, Grand Ronde consults with both the federal government and Oregon on treaty and trust resources including clean air, clean water and a healthy climate. We have a history of maintaining these natural resources and are working to prepare our communities for the impacts of climate change on water quality and quantity, fish and wildlife health and habitat and, ultimately, our tribal culture, way-of-life and well-being.

We have a responsibility to our people to restore and protect the air, water, and climate of Grand Ronde's treaty homelands. Grand Ronde has completed a Fisheries Vulnerability Assessment, which evaluates the vulnerability of Coho salmon to climate change effects and takes a proactive approach at recommending specific management adaptation actions. We are nearing the completion of a Forest Risk Assessment to evaluate the risks from climate change and other human-caused stressors to the Tribe's forested reservation and to recommend specific adaptation strategies. In addition, the Tribe's land ownership includes sustainably managed forestland, which could be valuable in addressing climate change under a well-planned and implemented carbon storage program.

Grand Ronde supports the efforts of the Clean Energy Bills and we are glad to see tribes will be represented on the Greenhouse Gas Cap Investment Program Advisory Committee as well as the Program's Offsets Protocol Advisory Committee. We would like to request that the following amendments to SB 1507 and HB 4001 be considered:

- As disproportionately impacted communities and sovereign nations capable of making the best decisions for their people, Tribes should be considered as an eligible entity for the Climate Investment Fund and to directly receive revenues.
- We also request that Tribes are able to use their forest and/or other lands for carbon sequestration to produce and market carbon credits.

Oregon is truly unique when it comes to the relationship between the state and the tribes. Together, we have done amazing things, from Governor Atiyeh and the creation of the Commission on Indian Services, to Governor Kitzhaber's Executive Order 96-30, and then passage of SB 770, which put into statute the government-to-government relationship. We should all be proud as Oregonians of the work done to solidify a strong bond between the state and the tribes. This is yet another example of the collaboration that continues to make Oregon a leader in state-tribal relations.

We encourage support of Senate Bill 1507 and House Bill 4001 with amendments.