

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians  
 AirWorks, Inc.  
 Alaska Housing Finance Corporation  
 Alliance to Save Energy  
 Allumia  
 Alternative Energy Resources Organization  
 American Rivers  
 Backbone Campaign  
 Beneficial State Bank  
 BlueGreen Alliance  
 Bonneville Environmental Foundation  
 Byrd Barr Place  
 Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon  
 City of Ashland  
 City of Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment  
 CleanTech Alliance  
 Climate Solutions  
 Community Action Center of Whitman County  
 Community Action Partnership Assoc. of Idaho  
 Community Action Partnership of Oregon  
 Earth and Spirit Council  
 Earth Ministry  
 Ecova  
 eFormative Options  
 Energy350  
 Energy Savvy  
 Energy Trust of Oregon  
 Environment Oregon  
 Environment Washington  
 EQL Energy  
 Forth  
 Home Performance Guild of Oregon  
 Housing and Comm. Services Agency of Lane Co.  
 Human Resources Council, District XI  
 Idaho Clean Energy Association  
 Idaho Conservation League  
 Idaho Rivers United  
 Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns  
 League of Women Voters Idaho  
 League of Women Voters Oregon  
 League of Women Voters Washington  
 Montana Audubon  
 Montana Environmental Information Center  
 Montana Renewable Energy Association  
 Montana River Action  
 National Center for Appropriate Technology  
 National Grid  
 Natural Resources Defense Council  
 New Buildings Institute  
 Northern Plains Resource Council  
 Northwest EcoBuilding Guild  
 Northwest Energy Efficiency Council  
 NW Natural  
 OneEnergy Renewables  
 Opower  
 Opportunities Industrialization Center of WA  
 Opportunity Council  
 Oregon Energy Fund  
 Oregon Environmental Council  
 Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility  
 OSEIA  
 Pacific Energy Innovation Association  
 Pacific NW Regional Council of Carpenters  
 Portland Energy Conservation Inc.  
 Portland General Electric  
 Puget Sound Advocates for Retired Action  
 Puget Sound Cooperative Credit Union  
 Puget Sound Energy  
 Renewable Northwest  
 Save Our wild Salmon  
 Seattle City Light  
 Seinerger  
 Sierra Club  
 Sierra Club, Idaho Chapter  
 Sierra Club, Montana Chapter  
 Sierra Club, Washington Chapter  
 Small Business Utility Advocates  
 Smart Grid Northwest  
 Snake River Alliance  
 Solar Installers of Washington  
 Solar Oregon  
 Solar Washington  
 South Central Community Action Partnership  
 Southeast Idaho Community Action Partners  
 Spark Northwest  
 Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners  
 Sustainable Connections  
 The Climate Trust  
 The Energy Project  
 UCONS, LLC  
 Union Of Concerned Scientists  
 United Steelworkers of America, District 12  
 US Green Building Council, Idaho Chapter  
 Washington Environmental Council  
 Washington Local Energy Alliance  
 Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility  
 Washington State Department of Commerce  
 Washington State University Energy Program  
 YMCA Earth Service Corps



**NW Energy Coalition**  
 for a clean and affordable energy future

February 7, 2018

To: Chair Helm and members of the Committee on Energy and Environment and Chair Dembrow and members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

From: Wendy Gerlitz and Oriana Magnera, NW Energy Coalition

The NW Energy Coalition wishes to express support for a cap and trade program in Oregon. Oregon has been working for a decade to address climate change that is the result of human causes, including combustion of petroleum, natural gas, and coal. We must do more; climate change is accelerating and we see the adverse impacts in the Northwest in the form of reduced snow pack, increased forest fires, sea level rise, ocean acidification, damage to watersheds, forests, agriculture and fish and wildlife. Oregon has always been a leader on environmental issues and it is time to take action on a comprehensive policy that addresses greenhouse gas emissions. SB 1507/HB 4001 (“Clean Energy Jobs Bill”) represents the strongest effort to date to cap and price carbon emissions in Oregon and provides a workable framework to reach agreement on a strong policy that will work for Oregonians.

The NW Energy Coalition is an alliance of about 100 environmental, civic and human service organizations, progressive utilities and businesses in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia. We promote development of renewable energy and energy conservation, consumer protection, low-income energy assistance, and fish and wildlife restoration on the Columbia and Snake rivers. Our members are concerned about the economic and environmental costs of inaction and value the benefits that result from investments in a cleaner energy economy.

The NW Energy Coalition believes that all load growth in the Northwest should be met with energy efficiency and renewable energy resources and that climate and clean energy policies should be done in a manner that protects existing markets (including voluntary markets) for renewable energy and energy efficiency, utility customers, and disadvantaged communities and workers.

Building on the legacy of our renewable portfolio standard, energy efficiency and other state programs, Oregon can be a leader in comprehensive state policies that promote renewable energy and energy efficiency while reducing carbon emissions, joining California, Ontario, Quebec, and states in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative who already have cap-and-invest policies. In order to do this effectively we need a strong cap on greenhouse gas emissions coupled with targeted investments in mitigation and adaptation. These investments will provide opportunities to expand energy assistance, energy efficiency and other demand-side approaches, and renewable energy, including community-based projects, all of which will provide energy savings and grid benefits. These projects will create local, family-wage jobs that will affect every Oregon district in a sector that is growing faster than state employment as a whole. Additionally, these investments will include prioritization for those most impacted by climate change: low-income communities, communities of color, tribes, and rural communities.

Oregon legislators have the opportunity to act now. To view the short session as not enough time to pass a crucial policy is to let yet another year go by without action. We urge members of the legislature to find a pathway to a workable, effective policy that can be passed this session. We stand ready to assist with this effort.

Sincerely,



Wendy Gerlitz, Policy Director



Oriana Magnera, Outreach and Policy Advocate