

February 6, 2018

Dear Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen, and Members of the Senate Environment Committee and Chair Helm, Vice-Chair Power, and Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee:

Thank you both for your consideration of SB 1507 and HB 4001 (Clean Energy Jobs bill – Cap, Trade, Invest). I am writing today to urge passage of this important step forward for Oregon and for our long-term economic and environmental health.

ZGF Architects is a Portland-based design firm with an intentionally diverse portfolio including healthcare and research facilities, academic buildings, mixed-use developments, corporate campuses, museums, transportation facilities and ecodistricts. A practice with more than 600 professionals and additional offices in Seattle, Los Angeles, Washington DC, New York City, and Vancouver BC, we have an ethos of collaboration, design excellence, stewardship of our natural and built environment, and exceptional client service. We strongly believe that energy efficiency and environmental stewardship are intrinsic elements of human-oriented and high-performance design, and that cap and trade will provide an efficient, market-based solution that not only addresses our society's serious carbon emission problem, but will also support a sustainable, vibrant economy.

This proposed legislation will reduce Oregon's emissions through a well-designed, market-based carbon pricing program, aligns with Oregon's climate goals, maintains the viability and competitive health of existing Oregon businesses, and mitigates impacts on low-income communities, communities of color, and rural communities.

As a company that values sustainability, and as a member of the Oregon Business Alliance for Climate, we support moving forward with cap and invest legislation that meets these key principles in the 2018 Legislative Session. Importantly, passing the Clean Energy Jobs bill now will also free up the Legislature to focus its attention on revenue in 2019 and position our state to be a leader in the growing clean energy economy as the 21st century unfolds.

We are not on pace to meet our state's carbon reduction goals through voluntary action so more must be done and the 2018 session is the time.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to speak with you further about this important legislation.

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