



To:

House Rules Committee

hrules.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

February 21, 2017

Dear Chair Williamson, Vice-Chair McLane, Vice Chair Rayfield and Members Barreto, Holvey, Kennemer, Nosse, Warner, and Wilson

Thank you for your consideration of 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.

Widmer Brothers Brewery, headquartered in Portland, OR, is the fifth largest brewing company in the U.S. As a leader in brewing, branding and bringing to market some of the world's best-loved craft beers, we also believe we have a responsibility to be a leader in the sustainable ways in which we make our beers.

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.

Our families, farmers, business owners, fishermen and firefighters are all bearing the burden of climate pollution – today in the way of drought, wildfires, extreme weather, and rising acid levels in oceans. The cost to our state in these regards cannot be stated strongly enough.

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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