



Climate Solutions.
PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL WARMING

February 6, 2019

Representative Ken Helm, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2623

Chair Helm and Members of the Committee,

We write in support of **HB 2623**. We strongly oppose expansion of fractured gas exploration and production. If Oregon and the nation are going to combat the worst impacts of climate change, we need to leave fossil fuels in the ground.

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate practical and profitable solutions to global warming. For more than 15 years, Climate Solutions has been working to implement energy efficiency, renewable energy, and carbon reduction policies that demonstrate that clean energy and broadly shared economic prosperity go hand-in-hand.

HB 2623 is a straightforward bill that reflects Oregon's priorities to combat climate change and wean our economy off fossil fuels. The devastating impacts of fracturing on numerous communities around the country further demonstrates the foolhardiness of expanding fractured gas exploration and production. Prohibiting fractured gas production also sends an important signal to Oregon's natural gas utilities and distributors that Oregon is not interested in expanding its reliance on fossil fuel based gas. Instead, we need to develop alternatives such as renewable natural gas and shift to clean sources of electricity.

We urge you to support **HB 2623**. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Van't Hof', with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

David Van't Hof
Policy Consultant, Climate Solutions