

ATTN: Co-Chairs Dembrow and Rowe, plus Members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

REF: Public Hearing Testimony for HB 2020, scheduled for March 2nd, 2019, Bend, OR

My name is Emilie Marlinghaus and I've called Central Oregon my home since 2005. I had hoped to attend the public hearing to testify to my strong support for HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs Bill, but fear inclement weather may prevent my doing so.

As a longtime environmental advocate, I have closely followed the climate change story for many years, and am very pleased with the current Cap and Invest Bill (HB 2020) that has been achieved after more than a decade of concerted effort by a small army of hardworking, dedicated, knowledgeable people, representing a broad spectrum of interest groups from across the state. And recent polling indicates that I am not alone in my support, as approximately 7 in 10 Oregonians polled also favor the Cap & Invest plan.

Not only will this Bill enable Oregon to effectively reduce our GHG emissions in a timely fashion, but it will position Oregon to take a leadership role in transitioning our state to a clean energy economy, with all of the significant economic, health, and environmental benefits that will accrue. As just one example: a recent report estimated that this Bill would enable the addition of an impressive 50,000 clean energy jobs to Oregon's economy by the year 2050.

Much as I support HB 2020, I earnestly hope that as it moves through the political vetting that it will retain the following features:

- > Cap on carbon goals of *at least* 45% by 2035; and 80% by 2050
- > Clear majority of proceeds to be invested in communities most impacted by climate change - addressing environmental equity issues
- > Prioritize GHG reductions !!!
- > Investment Benefits be delivered across the state, with focus on:
 - * Clean, renewable energy projects
 - * Forest health and sustainable agriculture
 - * Improving energy efficiency of homes and public buildings
 - * Clean and affordable transportation options
 - * Water, fire control, & wildlife and coastal waters protection & conservation

Climate change is not some problem for the distant future; it's happening right now. Recent summers of smoke-filled skies, prolonged drought, extreme weather events, accelerating acidification of our oceans, increasingly alarming negative health impacts and environmental degradation make abundantly clearer with each passing year: the costs of doing nothing are becoming prohibitive.

I leave you with the words of inspiring, young Swedish climate change activist, Greta Thunberg, when she addressed the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland in January of this year: *"I want you to act as if our house is on fire. Because it is. We can create transformational action that will safeguard living conditions for future generations or we can continue with business as usual and fail. It is up to you and me."*

After more than a decade of work here in Oregon, the time to act is Now. Please support HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs Bill. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of my thoughts on this critically vital piece of legislation.

Submitted by:

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March 1, 2019