

Dear Co-chairs Senator Dembrow, Representative Power and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

My name is Keith Iding, a Portland constituent from State Senate District 22 and House District 43. I am writing in favor of passage of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs Bill. I have been following the progress of this legislative response to Climate Change since before it was proposed and then set aside for the Short Session last year. I believe that this is a major opportunity to assist the Oregon economy to survive into the very uncertain times ahead due to increasing climate impacts. If we can act now to curtail our state's contributions to heat trapping emissions and transition to renewable energy, I agree with the testimony that you have been reviewing from a majority of climate experts that we can move our economy in a new successful direction and set a leadership example for other states to follow.

I support a strong Bill, minimizing exemptions and free allowances, and that works to retain and encourage emitters to work within the cap and invest limitations as an opportunity to transition to a cleaner and more sustainable future. I think HB 2020 is an exciting path forward to demonstrate that we can significantly curtail the problem emissions, potentially add to household income across all tax brackets and create thousands of good-paying jobs that will translate into continuing emission reductions. I believe that we should be aiming for Net Zero GHG emissions by 2050 and in the interim adopt ambitious interim targets of getting 20% below 1990 levels by 2025, and 55% below 1990 levels by 2035. I support a moratorium on all new fossil fuel infrastructure and retaining the set aside provisions of the Just Transition Fund to focus assistance on the most impacted communities.

I am a retired Environmental Specialist from Oregon DEQ who spent a lot of my time calibrating and using smoke measurement instrumentation in response to escalating forest fires which have been so destructive to forest resources, wildlife and human health, and to our State budget. We can't afford to ignore climate change effects. This situation has become urgent under the emerging predictions that we have only a very limited decade or two before we pass a permanent tipping point which denies a continuation of life as we know it. My 23 year old son is like many young adults today, unable to visualize a career that works toward real sustainability. We need to take a bold leadership stance now to help ensure that our State and our country are doing everything possible to protect our children's future, to significantly reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and build a new economy on clean energy options.

I also advocate for a stronger regulatory stance on our State's Agriculture and Forestry policies to bring them into this Bill with public recognition of how they are key contributors to climate change and should also be required to reduce emissions and protect carbon sequestration.

A fairly defined and enacted HB 2020 can launch an Oregon economy of the future to meet the imminent need for climate-change solutions.

Thank you,

Keith Iding
2332 NE Clackamas St
Portland, Oregon, 97232