



3/15/2019

Representative John Lively, Chair
House Committee on Economic Development
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for the Oregon Innovation Council (Oregon InC), experience with ONAMI

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Bonham, Vice-Chair Fahey and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of the Oregon Innovation program, and specifically want to acknowledge the value our company received from working with ONAMI's commercialization GAP fund, graduate student internship, and ongoing support programs.

ESS was founded in Portland OR in 2011. ONAMI provided ESS the first \$250,000 grant through its commercialization GAP fund. This enabled us to develop the All Iron Redox Flow Battery technology, which then attracted >\$4M follow-on funding from ARPA-E (Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy), and >\$15M funding from strategic partners, such as BASF, and VCs, such as Cycle Capital.

Beyond the GAP funding, ONAMI has continuously brought to ESS top notch talents from Oregon based colleges through its Graduate student internship program. Some of these high-quality interns have joined ESS team after the internship to develop and deliver our innovative battery systems to the fast-growing energy storage market.

Today ESS has grown from the two of us from 2011 to over 50 employees. We are well positioned to grow to 70-90 employees in 2019. We are always thankful to ONAMI for believing in us from the very beginning and providing us continuous support to grow.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Julia Song
Co-Founder & CTO

Sent via email to: hecd.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

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