



BIOMASS ONE LP

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March 25, 2019

Via Email

Representative Ken Helm
House Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2857 Support Small-Scale Renewable Energy Facilities in Oregon

Dear Representative Helm:

Biomass One, LP, a 30 megawatt woody biomass fueled electrical generating power plant, located in White City, Oregon, is writing in support of House Bill 2857. The State of Oregon has passed legislation in support of small scale renewable energy, demonstrating that the legislature believes there is definitely a place in Oregon's electrical energy portfolio for small scale renewable energy qualifying facilities.

However, the road to success for such facilities has not been smooth. House Bill 2857 would provide concrete measures to improve small scale renewable energy qualifying facilities' business relationship with their power customers, the large investor owned utility companies. House Bill 2857 would provide more transparency with regard to business transactions between the large investor owned utility companies and small scale renewable energy qualifying facilities.

More specifically, the bill:

- Provides greater notice and hearing rights to qualifying facilities whenever the utility companies elect to modify power pricing;
- Provides certainty with regard to when such changes are implemented;
- Would also modify the method the utility companies utilize to determine avoided cost rates, as qualifying facilities are not compensated for their value as a local source of power;
- Change the treatment of an existing qualifying facility renewing its power purchase agreement as a "new facility" so that it may be compensated for its capacity value at the time of contract renewal;
- Provides access to the court system when qualifying facilities are in dispute with the utility company;



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- Would require the utility company to acquire the renewable energy certificates associated with the purchased power;
- Would solidify the Oregon Public Utility Commission's commitment to small scale energy development through prices that adequately reflect qualifying facilities business costs.

Biomass One, LP urges this committee to vote a resounding **YES!!** On HB 2857. Your **YES** vote is a commitment to support small-scale renewable energy and small-scale renewable energy development in Oregon. The State of Oregon has been presented with an opportunity to construct a robust legislative framework that will drive small-scale renewable energy innovation and development. Biomass One, LP believes these measures are necessary to ensure that the State of Oregon is a leader in the success of small scale renewable energy facilities.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kurt E. Lumpkin".

Kurt E. Lumpkin
General Manager