

The House Committee on Energy & Environment,

Sulus Solar would like to declare our support for HB 2857.

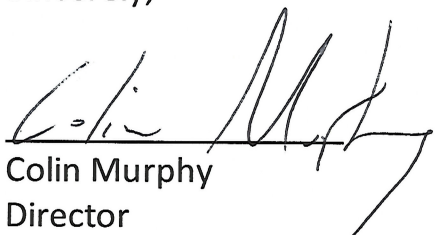
Small scale renewable facilities are an important part of the Oregon energy mix and absolutely essential to ensure Oregon can meet it's RPS targets. It is paramount that these facilities receive a fair price for the power they produce to make them economically viable as the benefits these facilities provide cannot be understated.

HB 2857 would provide the necessary framework to facilitate the continued use and development of small scale renewable facilities in Oregon. These types of facilities are hugely beneficial as they engage local companies and have a direct positive impact to the local community in which they are based.

HB 2857 encourages regional partnerships with counties, communities and utilities to provide clean, affordable power to local people who can benefit the most. HB 2857 allows decentralized renewable facilities to be developed and provide distributed energy generation which increases energy security for local communities, businesses and homes.

Additionally, small scale renewable facilities can provide financial security for local farmers. It is widely understood and unfortunate that the margins the average farmer makes from his or her land has reduced over the last 50 years. Across Oregon, well more than half of small scale farm owners supplement their income through non- farm activities to allow them to support the costs of their primary business. Through HB 2857, farmers can choose their worst performing land to situate small scale renewable facilities and provide farm owners with an opportunity for passive supplemental income that allows them to grow their farming activities.

Sincerely,



Colin Murphy
Director