



February 20, 2020

Representative Paul Holvey
Chair, House Committee on Rules

RE: Support for HB 4167

Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

Renewable Northwest is a regional renewable energy advocacy non-profit based in Oregon. Our members include 36 renewable energy companies and 24 environmental NGOs, all with the shared goal of replacing fossil fuel electricity plants with renewable energy solutions. Renewable Northwest supports HB 4167 because it will bring environmental benefits to the entire state, create a more sustainable economy, and open up more opportunity for rural economic development in the form of clean energy projects.

We want to thank the legislature for including the language contained in Section 7 Subsection 9. This language allows the Office of Greenhouse Gas Regulation to allocate allowances to a voluntary electricity generation reserve. The voluntary renewable energy market builds on, rather than competes with, compliance markets in that it is essentially surplus to regulation. This voluntary set aside provision is good for residential customers, cities and counties committing to a clean energy future, and large businesses seeking a clean energy portfolio.

Renewable Northwest would prefer that this language stated that the Office of Greenhouse Gas Regulation *shall*, rather than *may*, allocate allowances to a voluntary set aside. However, we are strongly supportive of this policy change because it promotes additionality in clean energy procurement. We implore the committee to retain this voluntary set aside provision in any subsequent versions of HB 4167 in order to further the development of Oregon's clean energy economy. We look forward to a future that continues to decrease our dependence upon fossil fuels, and HB 4167 represents a landmark step towards that future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nicole S. Hughes
Executive Director
Renewable Northwest
nicole@renewablenw.org