



To: Co-Chairs Lieber and Marsh, Senator Findley, and Representative Owens  
cc. Members of the Joint Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings  
Date: November 29, 2022

Thank you for the work you are doing to evaluate policies and programs to reduce emissions from Oregon's building sector. I wanted to provide context regarding interpretation of the Oregon Global Warming Commission's (OGWC) [TIGHGER](#) modeling results that have been a topic of conversation in the Task Force's discussions.

- As has been discussed by the OGWC and in the Task Force, the TIGHGER modeling predicts that with strong and effective implementation of House Bill 2021 (Legislative Session 2021), DEQ's Climate Protection Program (CPP) and other existing climate policies, the state will be on track to meet the 2035 climate mitigation targets established by EO 20-04. **However**, it will take significant efforts by state agencies, industry, and others to ensure these policies and programs meet their emissions reductions. For example, as the OGWC has discussed at length in assessing the TIGHGER modeling results, while the CPP helps set the path for Oregon to reduce emissions from buildings (and the transportation sector) **additional policies/regulations/incentives will be essential to: (a) ensure GHG reductions happen at the pace and scale necessary; and (b) enable an equitable and affordable transition to a clean energy future.** As chair of the OGWC, I see the Joint Task Force on Resilient Efficient Buildings work and future legislative actions that may grow out of your work as an important contribution to achieving these dual objectives.
- Oregon's current emission reduction goals – both those in statute as well as those identified in EO 20-04 – fall short of the current best available science as currently recommended by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). With each passing year, more and more evidence mounts on the critical need for us to act quickly and aggressively to reduce emissions and to avoid irreversible and catastrophic climate impacts. The Commission has discussed the need to update Oregon's statutory emissions reduction targets. I anticipate that the Commission will make recommendations for strengthened targets in-line with the best available science ahead of the next legislative session.
- Finally, the TIGHGER modeling as well as the modeling done specifically for the Task Force underscores that effective implementation of existing and additional climate mitigation policies would provide benefits for Oregonians – substantial net energy savings, more jobs, reduced energy burden for families, and improved public health outcomes.

I urge you to continue your work to develop recommendations to accelerate emissions reductions in the built environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Catherine Macdonald'.

Catherine Macdonald, Chair  
Oregon Global Warming Commission