

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2021, 100% Clean Energy for All. I am a mother to two little girls (ages 4 and 2) and I live in SE Portland. This bill is deeply important to me and my family, because I want a future for my daughters that isn't based on fear of what their world will look like because of climate change. I want Oregon to move away from carbon intensive energy sources and focus on renewables because I do not want my daughters to suffer or live in fear because we didn't take action now. We only have a short time to turn this around. This bill would mean that we are headed in the right direction. This would mean so much to me and my family.

I urge you to support this bill, because not only does it move us toward a sustainable future, but it can also help our community now with green jobs. Here in SE Portland, there are so many people homeless or without jobs, so pushing forward and investing in a growing economy of green energy may be able to help people who need help now.

I would also encourage, as we move forward toward a green energy future, that these new jobs pay well and have good benefits. Additionally, a focus on communities who suffer disproportionately from environmental justice issues, such as people of color and indigenous communities. We have to make sure that everyone is fairly treated and that environmental justice issues are taken into careful consideration.

As you know there was a major winter storm which knocked out power for days. My sister, who lives in our neighborhood, didn't have power for a week. I think it is important to also consider community based energy projects, such as co-ops, that provide solar plus storage so that our communities can be energy resilient and have ownership and a voice in how our energy is developed and used.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2021. Please support a strong 100% Clean Energy Standard with good jobs and community-based energy projects for Oregonians.

Sincerely,
Heather Niles
Portland, OR