



April 26, 2021

Chair Marsh and Committee Members
House Energy and Environment Committee
RE: Support for SB 333-A

Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee:

We write in support of SB 333-A. Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization working to protect our water, air and land with healthy solutions that work for today and for future generations.

Our organizations are hopeful about the prospects of *renewable* hydrogen becoming an important source of energy in Oregon as we transition to a low carbon future. Unlike fossil-based hydrogen, which relies on fossil gas to create it, renewable hydrogen is derived via an electrolyzer powered either exclusively from renewable electricity or from grid electricity that is primarily non-emitting electricity (e.g. primarily hydro and/or renewable-based). Renewable hydrogen will hopefully prove to be a winner from both a cost-effectiveness perspective as well as from a greenhouse gas perspective. Oregon is well positioned with our Clean Fuel Standard and with our movement toward a clean electricity grid for renewable hydrogen to be an additional important clean energy technology in our state.

SB 333-A is a study bill, directing the Oregon Department of Energy to assess the potential benefits and barriers to developing renewable hydrogen created from sources that create no greenhouse gas emissions and to report back to the 2022 legislature. We think that is a sensible first step to developing renewable hydrogen infrastructure in Oregon. SB 333-A should help illuminate the potential for renewable hydrogen in Oregon and clarify any additional policies that might be needed to move the industry forward.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Meredith Connolly
Oregon Director
Climate Solutions

Nora Apter
Climate Program Director
Oregon Environmental Council