

I am 100% for a charge to customers by electric utilities to invest in much needed electrical infrastructure. I drive a plug in hybrid and would have purchased a full EV if my range anxiety were assuaged by more EV charging infrastructure. I am in support of HB2165A for this reason and it's provisions for the Charge Ahead program to assist in the purchase of EVs.

If SB314 were the only option this session to support investment in EV infrastructure I would be in support of SB314. If that were the case I would be asking that you remove Section 3 that provides the same benefits to NW Natural Gas. Ten or twenty years ago we had the time to make the kind of gradual switch from methane gas but those days are gone. The disproportionate warming in arctic regions is already adding to the methane load as the permafrost melts and gas from the thousands of years of decomposing plant and animal matter is working it's way to the surface. I know NW Natural Gas employees over 1,000 people but it is time for us to help them find new jobs and to phase out the use of this potent greenhouse gas.

The House did work drafting HB 2165 and I hope its less adequate and potentially dangerous cousin will be voted down by the House Committee on Energy and Environment.