

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

**SOCAN**

Confronting Climate Change

<https://socan.eco>

Alan R.P. Journet Ph.D.

Co-facilitator

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

Jacksonville OR 97530-9342

[alan@socan.eco](mailto:alan@socan.eco)

541-301-4107

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Chair Beyer and members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment:

I write on behalf of more than 1500 rural Southern Oregonians who are Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN). We are an organization dedicated to promoting awareness and understanding about the science of climate change and motivating Oregonians to take individual and collective action to address it. Everyone talks about the climate, but too few of us actually do anything about it. Members of the Oregon Coast Energy Alliance Network (OCEAN) are an exception. Recognizing that the Southern Oregon / Northern California coast is the Saudi Arabia of wind, these volunteers have banded together to seek an offshore wind powered method for generating electricity and replacing fossil fuel powered generators.

In our judgment, there is no crisis facing humanity greater than the climate chaos that global warming, driven by human combustion of fossil fuels, is causing. Among the solution to this problem are renewable energy resources. According to Mark Z Jacobson's 'Solution Project' in the 100% clean energy future for the [United States](#), 16.7% of our nation's energy is generated by is offshore wind. Meanwhile, the 100% clean energy vision for [Oregon](#) includes 15% offshore wind.

Increasingly, jurisdictions across the globe are taking action to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and promote sequestration of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Through a series of proposals before the Oregon legislature this session, Oregon has an opportunity to join the caravan of states and nations taking seriously the threat climate chaos poses for the future of life on the planet as we know it and the ability of this planet to support our children and grandchildren.

While questionable solutions to the climate crisis, such as biomass and Renewable Natural Gas abound, one unequivocal solution is wind turbines generating clean electricity. To their immense credit, the OCEAN team have recognized the value of the offshore coastal winds of southern Oregon and are attempting to realize the dream of generating electricity off our coast.

Despite the evidence of continued economic growth in other states address greenhouse gas emissions, many critics of addressing climate change wrongly worry that efforts to reduce emissions and sequester carbon pose a threat to the state's economy rather than worrying what the cost of not addressing the problem might be. The beauty of the offshore wind project is that it comprises a clear and transparent win-win proposition in terms of both reducing emissions and generating good-paying jobs. We have long argued that regional renewable energy constitutes a far superior solution to the economic

difficulties plaguing rural and coastal Oregon than more fossil fuel projects. Now we have an option that is infinitely superior to the climatically disastrous Jordan Cove LNG export boondoggle that is seemingly unlikely to occur.

In the interests of promoting clean energy and a healthy economy, we urge upon members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment support for HB3375A.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan R.P. Journet". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan R.P. Journet Ph.D.

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