



February 17, 2021

To: Rep. Smith Warner, Chair, House Committee on Rules
Rep. Drazen, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Rules
Rep. Holvey, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Rules
Members, House Committee on Rules

From: Angela Crowley-Koch, Executive Director, Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA)
and Max Greene, Regulatory & Policy Director, Renewable Northwest

Re: Testimony re: HB 2064

Dear Chair Smith-Warner, Vice-Chair Drazen, Vice-Chair Holvey, and Members of the Committee,

Renewable Northwest is a regional, non-profit renewable energy advocacy organization based in Oregon, dedicated to decarbonizing the region by accelerating the transition to renewable electricity. Our members are a combination of renewable energy businesses and environmental and consumer groups. Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar technologies. OSEIA members include businesses, non-profit groups, and other solar industry stakeholders. We provide a unified voice of the solar industry and focus exclusively on the solar value chain; from workforce development to permitting, advocacy, policy, and regulation for manufacturing, residential, commercial, community, and utility scale solar projects on the local, state and regional level.

Renewable Northwest and OSEIA encourage the Committee to support passage of HB 2064, to change the quorum requirement for the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC).

It is difficult to recruit and retain EFSC members, since the volunteer position deals with highly technical matters, involves a great deal of travel, and a large time commitment. Due to the nature of the work, there are often a number of unfilled seats on EFSC. Changing the quorum requirement allows the Council to continue its work – including siting new renewable energy projects - even if there are unfilled positions. If HB 2064 is not adopted it could result in permit delays, which can cost the renewables industry valuable time and money during project development. We urge you to support HB 2064.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Max Greene".

Max Greene
Regulatory & Policy Director
Renewable Northwest

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela Crowley-Koch".

Angela Crowley-Koch
Executive Director
Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association