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February 18, 2021

To: House Committee on Energy and Environment; others

Re: I OPPOSE [HB 2109]...WITH EXTREME PREJUDICE!

There will always be someone trying to nibble away Oregon's priceless and irreplaceable farmlands under the guise of "renewable energy projects."

Once the "nibbling" is tolerated, the "large gobbling bites" come next and before you know it, priceless and irreplaceable farmlands will be sacrificed for just about everything you can imagine, except for food production.

The Resource Economy (Agriculture, Timber products, Fisheries and Mining) are the backbone of Oregon's economy. These are renewable and economically stable sources of income.

Solar farms, sure they produce income but, they are not reliable and or economically stable.

What Solar farms can accomplish and what is not being discussed (outside the four corners of this testimony) is Solar farms can be another state's (such as California) slick way to gain "energy credits" to offset their bad environmental behaviors associated with "cap and trade."

The sad, but influencing aspect of "Energy facilities," such as "Solar farms" is unfortunately predicated on the aging farmers and no one to take up farming on their land. So, the farmers, sometimes due to financial hardship, want to lease out a portion of their land in hopes they can prosper through making a deal with the Devil. But, as we all should know, never ever make any deal with the Devil.

To thwart the Devil and or the accompanying heretical doctrines of lesser but included demons, the voters back in 1998 created [Ballot Measure 56].

[Ballot Measure 56] (BM56) has some unique features such as;

- 1.) "The measure requires cities and counties to send notice to affected property owners when the city or county makes a change in the zoning of their property."
- 2.) "Measure 56 also requires the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to notify cities and counties when the legislature enacts a new law, or the Land Conservation and Development Commission adopts a new administrative rule, that limits or prohibits previously allowed uses."

For more information on the DLCD: https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/NN/Pages/Landowner-Notification.aspx

We must all be vigilant to protect Oregon's priceless and irreplaceable farmlands!

Discard [HB 2109] and convince Governor Brown to take up vegetable gardening.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David S. Wall