



February 13, 2023

House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem Oregon 97301

**Re: HB 2534 and -1 Amendment- Support**

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Levy and Levy, and Members of the Committee,

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. We support HB 2534 with its -1 amendment, and agree that it is important for Oregon to develop a comprehensive energy analysis and strategy for achieving the state's ambitious clean energy and climate policies and goals.

**We support HB 2534 and the -1 amendment.**

Oregon has set ambitious targets and policies for its energy future to benefit all Oregonians. Meeting these targets and policies is achievable and having a state strategy that offers a roadmap will support this goal.

A state energy strategy also offers an opportunity to look at existing Oregon policies and chart pathways for a comprehensive clean energy future that considers the potential tradeoffs and benefits as well as remaining policy gaps.

A state energy strategy will provide key information to policy makers on future decisions such as:

- (1) how best to expand Oregon's renewable energy resources and need for increased electricity transmission while continuing to protect longstanding land use, natural resource and environmental considerations;
- (2) how to best address the projected large increased capacity energy needs of the electrical grid as we transition from baseload coal and fracked gas generation to intermittent renewable energy generation (i.e. through ramping up diverse energy storage and demand management);
- (3) how to strategically deploy certain limited renewable energy sources like green electrolytic hydrogen to the most pressing decarbonization uses such as industrial processes, agricultural production of fertilizers and heavy duty vehicle transportation; and
- (4) how to build safer and more resilient communities as we transition to clean energy sources.



A state energy strategy also should better position Oregon to compete for and benefit from the billions of dollars in federal investments in clean energy and decarbonization over the next several years.

HB2534-1 asks ODOE to do just this - create a state energy strategy that considers various pathways and suggests optimized ones to meet Oregon's energy and emissions reduction policies, shaped by stakeholder outreach and state energy policies. Therefore we respectfully urge your support.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meredith Connolly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Meredith Connolly  
Oregon State Director