

Submitter: Pat DeLaquil

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2816

Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Bobbie Levy and Emerson Levy and members of the House Committee on Climate Energy and Environment,

Oregon has become a very popular state to site data centers due to our relatively cheap energy, proximity to undersea data cables, and Enterprise Tax Zone benefits. Many data centers are located in HB 2021 territory, and are therefore excluded from the statute. I support HB 2816 because it simply a backstop to ensure ALL tech companies are on the same path to 100% clean energy.

Data centers provide economic and social benefits to Oregon, and so their growth here could be a net positive – if they are using clean energy. A few companies should not be allowed to avoid the requirements of HB2021 with on-site fossil fuel use, and HB 2816 will prevent this kind of activity by regulating these few facilities to put all companies in the sector on the same path.

HB 2816 will not hinder economic development, but rather would stabilize the industry by bringing every company up to the same level and instill public confidence that the industry is participating in our clean energy transition.

HB 2816 is a simple and streamlined regulatory framework. The reporting does not present an administrative burden, and simply requires submission to DEQ of progress toward the targets, including an estimate of GHG emissions, annual goals set by the facility operator for GHG reduction, and a copy of the Power Purchase Agreement for any purchases from energy providers indicating the type of power purchased (which is kept confidential due to market sensitivity).

I urge you to support HB 2816.

Dr. Pat DeLaquil
Metro Climate Action Team