



O C E A N

Oregon Coast Energy Alliance Network

February 18, 2023

RE: Support SB 124 & 125

Madam Chair Sollman and members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

My name is Shannon Souza, I live in Coos County where I practice sustainability consulting and contracting. As a professional engineer I uphold an oath to serve public safety. In recognition of the resilience values that renewable hydrogen offers to support energy security both for critical facilities, such as our hospitals and water treatment plants, and for our transportation sector, I support SBs 124 and 125.

I'm also the volunteer President of OCEAN. Oregon Coast Energy Alliance Network is a volunteer non-profit based in Coos Bay investigating the opportunities and challenges of advanced energy technologies contributing to clean coastal energy security. We support an engaged citizenry making informed decisions about our energy futures. Oregon's coastal communities reside at the ragged edges of an aging energy infrastructure and are dependent upon electricity and fuel imports via catastrophe prone routes through Oregon's coastal range. We embrace a vision of a coastal energy future that is safe, secure, reflective of coastal culture and contributes to a diversified local economy.

OCEAN supports SB 124 and 125 as timely vehicles for allowing our coastal communities access to critical funding to jump start our responsible transition away from our status quo of dependency on imported fuels toward energy resilience. SB 124 would allow us to contemplate the integration of solar derived clean hydrogen in places like Coquille Valley, the location of our hospital and county seat that will orchestrate our recovery from tsunamis, wildfires, and seismic events. 125 would allow us to pilot a renewable hydrogen based fueling station on Oregon's coastal on HWY 101 – contributing to continuity along the pacific coast for long haul trucking and establishing in Coos Bay decarbonized fueling stations for distribution centers and maritime commerce along the Pacific rim.

In each of these examples, the host communities of Coquille and Coos Bay rely imported electricity from PacifiCorp's electricity generation portfolio, a portfolio that we become increasingly decarbonized through compliance with Oregon HB2021 Clean Electricity statute. Accordingly, in order to extend equitable access to clean hydrogen technology to all of Oregon's communities, it is imperative that any consensus-based definitions included in SB 124 provide pathways for clean electrolytic hydrogen generation that include behind the meter generation as well as grid interconnection with Renewable Energy Credits and/or Power Purchase Agreements for access to decarbonized generating resources.

Thank you for your consideration of our perspectives. Please support and fund SB 124 and 125.

Sincerely,

www.oceanwinds.org

Clean coastal energy security.



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Shannon Souza, P.E.
President
Oregon Coast Energy Alliance Network