



Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

February 7, 2023

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Findley, and members of the committee,

The Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association (OSSIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar and storage technologies. OSSIA members include businesses, non-profit groups, and other solar and storage 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 and storage projects on the local, state and regional level.

OSSIA supports passage of SB 852, which would provide assistance to environmental justice communities related to energy projects. With the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act by Congress, there are many new funding opportunities to provide Oregon communities with clean energy and energy resilience. However, applying for publicly funded grants, whether directly to the federal government or to the state government, is complex and time consuming. Even organizations and agencies with sufficient capacity struggle to manage requirements and reporting. In addition, new tax credits are complicated in their implementation rules; technical assistance is necessary to make access equitable and fair.

Environmental justice communities have been underserved and disproportionately impacted by fossil fuel pollution. These communities deserve intentional assistance to expand access to clean energy.

OSSIA supports passage of SB 852.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Crowley-Koch". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Angela Crowley-Koch
Executive Director