



Volunteer

March 27, 2023

Testimony before the Oregon
House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

Subject: Opposition of HB 3179-2 and -3 - Renewable Energy Facility Siting

Chair Helms, Vice-chairs Hartman and Owens, members of the Committee

My name is David Wiley. I live in Sublimity, Oregon. I am a member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and today I am speaking for the Elk Foundation and its more than 14,000 members who live in Oregon.

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is a national non-profit hunter sponsored conservation organization whose mission is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. We represent more than 225,000 members nationwide and more than 14,000 in Oregon. Since 1991 within Oregon, RMEF and its partners have:

- completed more than 1,034 conservation and hunting heritage projects in the state,
- enhancing over 865,647 acres, and
- improved recreational access to 139,655 acres.

RMEF does not support HB 3179-2 or 3179-3 amendments. Please vote no and allow the bill to die in Committee.

RMEF is concerned that both HB 3179-2 or HB 3179-3 would significantly reduce protection of wildlife species and their habitats by:

1. Introducing undefined criteria for use in analysis and mitigation of adverse impacts to wildlife populations and habitats.
2. Accountability for mitigation is removed by allowing “future performance” obligations.
3. Receiving fee funded mitigation without and without assurances for either permanence or adequacy of the mitigation provided.
4. Does not provide for the State to exercise its review authority for project proposals on federal lands.