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March 30, 2023

To: Chair Ken Helm, Vice Chair Annessa Hartman, Vice Chair Mark Owens, Representatives Court Boice, Mark Gamba, Bobby Levy, Pam Marsh, Susan McLain, and Anna Scharf

Myself, Margaret Nolan, and the company I work for, BrightNight, an independent power producer of energy, is in favor of HB 3179 for the following reasons:

- Provides serious relief to renewable energy development efforts within Oregon.
 - Currently Oregon is one of the most challenging states to develop renewables in and HB 3179 would ease some of the development pain points.
- Greatly in favor of raising the sizing and threshold acreages of projects that can site at the county level. Dictating the size of a project is an unnecessary constraint in contrast to the lack of transmission capacity in Oregon. HB 3179 removes roadblocks on land adjacent to transmission corridors, particularly focused on land with water and soil constraints. We cannot inhibit renewable energy developer's access to Transmission. Transmission is the resource that renewable energy projects are dependent on, it is essential to release these lands for proposed projects.
- Goal 3 exception relief will provide more optionality to renewable developers to site a project and slightly minimize the development risks developers take to move renewable projects forward in the local/state permitting processes. Keep in mind that renewable projects are *extremely capital intensive* to develop, even in earlier stages of development. Developers are fronting thousands of dollars early on to improve Oregon and our country's transmission reliability and power mix.
 - Having the County and State processes aligned is a good idea to make the permitting process cleaner and easier for all involved.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter and considering these points. Please pass HB 3179, it is vital to the State of Oregon and our country's energy goals.

Sincerely,

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