

Submitter: Jackson Becce
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

NovoHydrogen - <https://novohydrogen.com/> (“Novo”) is a hydrogen project developer operating all around the U.S and with planned projects in Oregon that will be built and operating in the next few years. With decades of combined renewable energy and oil and gas experience, the Novo team is well positioned to decarbonize the GHG-intensive industrial, transportation, and power sectors through the development and supply of decarbonized hydrogen. Novo can help generate hydrogen where a customer needs it with an on-site electrolyzer powered by renewable energy as well as leverage the scale of off-site projects to deliver hydrogen reliably to the site of any customer’s operations. When electrolyzers are powered by renewable energy sources like solar photovoltaics or wind turbines, they produce virtually no GHG emissions. Moreover, as the grid switches to more intermittent renewable energy sources, more dispatchable power is needed to match peak demand. Having a renewable and dispatchable energy source like hydrogen is critical for energy security and resiliency at industrial, transportation, and power-generating facilities across Oregon. Hydrogen is therefore a key solution that can provide deep resilience to the highly electrified net-zero economy of the future.

This is core to Novo's mission.

As an organization committed to using decarbonized hydrogen to further the clean energy transition, we are deeply invested in supporting clean energy and decarbonized hydrogen policies in Oregon's budget. To do that, there needs to be a clear definition for "green" hydrogen, as well as grants and funding to support critical infrastructure like pipelines, hydrogen refueling stations, electrolyzers, and finally workforce development programs to support all the required new jobs to enable these efforts. This support will not only lower the cost to produce electrolytic, carbon-free hydrogen, and make it cost-competitive with fossil fuels, but it would also help speed up and scale production to meet Oregon's climate goals and strengthen the resilience of the state's energy systems.

Novo therefore strongly supports SB 124 and SB 125 as these policies are well-aligned with the above goals. SB 124 would establish a \$5 million grant fund to facilitate transitioning away from the use of fossil fueled backup power by reducing the cost of acquiring hydrogen fuel cell backup generators. Supporting non-emitting fuel cell or equivalent backup generation technology is important to provide a clean alternative to diesel backup power, and better resiliency to communities particularly at risk from extreme weather, wildfires, or seismic events. SB 125 would establish a \$25 million grant fund to deploy fuel cell vehicles and fueling infrastructure

demonstration projects which will be critical for Oregon to meet its climate goals such as the advanced clean cars mandate that was recently adopted in the state. These policies also use definitions for “renewable hydrogen” and “green electrolytic hydrogen” embedded in Oregon RPS statute.

Novo looks forward to many successful clean hydrogen projects in Oregon that will both support economic development as well as reduce emissions.