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February 12, 2024

Oregon State Legislature House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Regarding: Support for HB 4090 and the -4 amendments

Dear Chair Helm and Members of the Committee:

Sunstone Energy is an Oregon business that focuses on Renewable Energy Development consultation and voluntary policy work. As an Oregonian and an experienced proponent of responsible renewable energy development practices, Sunstone Energy supports HB 4090 and the -4 amendments.

Thank you to the bill sponsors and proponents for their efforts in drafting these concepts by identifying a rare opportunity to make a significant positive impact to the siting of some potential projects and a roadmap to thinking creatively on how to solve Oregon's significant siting issues by making changes to process.

The passing of HB4090 would remove the potential for duplicative process that can extend timelines and the spending of finite financial resources for renewable energy facilities proposed on federal lands. This is a sustainable method of working to solve an issue for Oregon by streamlining the process without removing any meaningful review or public input. This is a low hanging fruit solution. The Layering of the Oregon EFSC site certificate with the Federal NEPA process is daunting to consider and adds to Oregon being less competitive with other states for renewable energy development.

I encourage the committee to pass this bill to keep up the good work and momentum we have been doing as a community to facilitate responsible development in Oregon for Oregonians.

In Service

Amy Berg Pickett

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