

Submitter: Bonnie Beckel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: HB4083

Hello Oregon Legislative Leaders,

My name is Bonnie Beckel. I'm writing you as a representative of the Minnesota Divestment Coalition, working to get our pension funds divested from fossil fuels.

The beautiful state of Oregon should adopt legislation to end investment in coal. The time is now to recognize that the future (and the PRESENT!) that we need is free of fossil fuels, especially thermal coal. I'm sure you know that coal is the most polluting form of energy production there is, both for our climate and for our health. Air pollution from coal-fired power plants is linked with asthma, cancer, heart and lung ailments, neurological problems, acid rain, global warming, and more. I'm sure you also know that we will not be able to meet the requirements of the Paris Climate Agreements if we continue to burn coal.

You undoubtedly also know that coal has been a poor investment for some years. Oregon's pension holders are counting on you to invest wisely; to invest in the future of renewable resources.

I look forward to hearing that you passed this legislation!