

February 4, 2026

House Committee on Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 4084

Dear Chair Nguyen, Vice-Chairs Isadore and Skarlatos, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Rebecca Smith, and I serve as the Senior Director of Policy and Education for the Renewable Hydrogen Alliance (RHA). RHA is a regional non-profit trade association enabling access to safe, affordable, and renewable hydrogen for communities across the Pacific Northwest. Our 80+ members represent the full value chain of the hydrogen ecosystem – hydrogen technology and service providers, equipment manufacturers, project developers, public transit agencies, labor unions, utilities, and many others. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 4084 on behalf of RHA and its members.

Production and use of low-carbon and renewable hydrogen represent a significant economic development opportunity for Oregon. The Governor recently supported NEXTClean Fuels' project in Columbia County to produce clean fuels and create 6,000 jobs, and Intel and Daimler are globally leading companies with a footprint in the hydrogen industry.

We support the creation of mechanisms to expedite permitting for clean and renewable projects and want to ensure that hydrogen is included when developing eligibility requirements. While some of the technology associated with hydrogen is decades old, these are novel project types for our state agencies, which can lead to significant delays due to lack of education and awareness.

We also recommend that the Joint Permitting Council established by HB 4084 consider some of the steps our neighbors in Washington state have taken to streamline permitting, including the development of Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements for hydrogen production and for sustainable aviation fuel.

Much like wind and solar projects, hydrogen production projects are also facing a fast-approaching deadline to qualify for federal funds – hydrogen projects must demonstrate a certain level of construction or progress made by the end of 2027 to qualify for the federal 45V tax credit worth up to \$3 a kilogram, which is analogous to \$3 per gallon of gas. This is an important clean fuel affordability and economic development opportunity for Oregon and RHA fully supports mechanisms like those in HB 4084 that can help speed qualifying projects through the permitting process.

Thank you for your consideration,

Rebecca Smith
Senior Director, Policy and Education