

April 14, 2015

Environment Oregon
1536 SE 11th Ave.
Portland, OR. 97214



Dear Legislator,

As business owners and farmers in Oregon, we urge you to vote in support of strong pro-solar legislation during the 2015 Oregon State Legislature Legislative Session.

From its mountain peaks to its jagged coasts, Oregon is a beautiful place to live. We should repower Oregon with clean energy that protects our environment, and we already have the technology to make this possible. But right now, we still get nearly half our energy from dirty sources like coal and oil, which contribute to global warming.

This legislative session, you have the opportunity to pass a series of bills that would help bring 10 times more solar power to Oregon in the next ten years—the equivalent of putting solar panels on 250,000 roofs. We urge you to support these bills to repower Oregon and protect our beautiful state for future generations.

From small business owners to restaurateurs, we know that clean, renewable energy is critical to our livelihoods and the vitality of Oregon's communities. We not only believe that clean, renewable energy is necessary to protect our environment and health, but that it can bring incredibly important economic benefits to our state.

We believe that, by increasing the amount of solar power in our state, you can help ensure that our communities are healthy and our local economies continue to grow.

Oregon is already one of the nation's leading centers for solar technology design and manufacturing. In fact, we are home to the nation's largest solar panel manufacturer- SolarWorld in Hillsboro. Oregon has 133 solar companies throughout the state, employing over 2,700 Oregonians. Additionally, because the panels are made in Oregon and installed by Oregonians, more than 80% of the money invested in solar systems stays in state.

Unfortunately, solar energy production in Oregon lags behind states like Massachusetts and New Jersey, who have less solar potential than Oregon, but are currently getting 9 times more solar power than us- in fact, less than 1% of the energy generated in Oregon comes from the sun. What makes these leaders different from Oregon is not the quality of infrastructure or amount of sunlight but the policies that these states have put into place. This legislative session, you have the opportunity to pass a series of bills that would help bring 10 times more solar power to Oregon in the next ten years.

Expanding Oregon's solar energy market would create thousands of additional jobs in the solar industry like system manufacturing, and installation and maintenance—jobs that cannot be outsourced.

We appreciate your commitment to protecting the well-being of all Oregonians, and we hope you will move swiftly to make solar power more accessible in Oregon- for our health and for our economy.

Sincerely,

Realty on the Rogue, Agness

Pacific Kale, Bend

Benton Electric Inc., Albany

Pacific Mountain Ranch, Bend

Carver Ranch, Alsea

Soba Corp, Bend

Common Treasury Farm, Alsea

Sunriver Fishing Center, Bend

Willow-Witt Ranch, Ashland

The Hub Cyclery, Bend

TrueSouth Solar, Ashland

E2 Solar, Bend

101 Plants Inc., Bandon

Sunlight Solar, Bend

Olde Towne Seafood and Market, Bandon

Oregon Solar Works, Cave Junction

Computer Renaissance, Beaverton

7 Devils Brewing Co., Coos Bay

Hot Shots Billiards, Beaverton

Blooming Hill Vineyards, Cornelius

Kiyokawa Family Orchards, Beaverton

Renewable Associates, Corvallis

Stanton Furniture, Beaverton

Camas Swale Farm, Dexter

Super Play, Beaverton

Arbor South Architecture, Eugene

The Garage Sale Center, Beaverton

Beezup's Farm, Eugene

Bluebird Coffee Company, Bend

Glory Bee Foods, Eugene

Fire in Bend, Bend

Hollywood Treasures, Eugene

Fleet Feet Sports, Bend

Honor Earth Farm, Eugene

Foot Zone, Bend

Hummingbird Wholesale, Eugene

Groundwork Organics, Bend

Marco Beauty and Wig Salon, Eugene

Net Visibility Group, Eugene

Lost Creek Farm, Marcola

Off the Waffle, Eugene

Home Grown Food Products, McMinnville

Oregon Antique Mall, Eugene

Newcastle Solar, Myrtle Creek

River Bend Farm, Eugene

Bike Newport, Newport

Sekao Bonsai, Eugene

Canyon Way Bookstore & Rstrnt, Newport

Solar Assist, Eugene

Carl's Coffee, Newport

Sundance Grocery, Eugene

Cascade Coast Solar, Newport

Sweet Life, Eugene

Cohen and Park Portrait Studio, Newport

The Green Store, Eugene

Flashback's Foutain and Grill, Newport

Whirled Pies, Eugene

Green Gables Italian café, Newport

Winter Green Farm, Eugene

Illingworth's Gifts, Newport

Cornicopia Catering, Eugene

Mainstream Music, Newport

Oregon Electric Station, Eugene

Newport Steak & Seafood, Newport

Key Family Fruit Farm, Hillsboro

Oceana Natural Foods, Newport

Tofurky, Hood River

Old World Tattoo, Newport

Deck Family Farm, Junction City

Surf Town Coffee, Newport

Kyra's Bake Shop, Lake Oswego

Newport Café, Newport

Mushroomery, Lebanon

Coastal Breezw Inc., Newport

The Mushroomery, Lebanon

Grateful Harvest Farm, Noti

Devil's Dill Sandwiches, Portland

Sun Bridge Solar, Portland

Everybody's Bike Rentals, Portland

Sweet Pea Farms, Portland

Fetzer's German Sausage, Portland

Linnea Marie Farms, Roseburg

Float On, Portland

Gilgamesh Brewing, Salem

Flying Fish Co, Portland

Gligamesh Brewery, Salem

Garden Fever!, Portland

RS Energy, Tualitin

Hankins True Value Hardware, Portland

Hardcore Florist, Portland

InTown Ag, Portland

Keen, Portland

Mad Sons Pub, Portland

Olympia Provisions, Portland

Organically Grown Company, Portland

Primal Screens, Portland

Proper Eats Market & Cafe, Portland

Que Pasa Cantina, Portland

Elemental Energy, Portland

Synchro Solar, Portland

Solar Energy Solutions, Portland