

**To:**

Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee

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House Energy and Environment Committee

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**February 8, 2018**

Dear Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen, and Members of the Senate Environment Committee and Chair Helm, Vice-Chair Power, and Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of SB 1507 and HB 4001 (Clean Energy Jobs bill – Cap, Trade, Invest).

I am writing today to urge passage of this important step forward for Oregon and for our long-term economic and environmental health.

My company, Propel Fuels, Inc., is a retailer of low-carbon transportation fuels. Founded in the PNW, we relocated from to California in 2008 due to California's well designed Cap and Trade and Low Carbon Fuels Standard policies. With Oregon's passage of the Clean Fuels Program, we are now evaluating expansion back into Oregon. As it does in California, Cap, Trade, and Invest will drive investment and jobs into the state. It will allow our company to provide equitable access to low priced, low carbon fuels to Oregon's drivers that materially reduce pollutants like NOx, SOx, particulate matter 2.5 which disproportionately affect the state's most vulnerable populations who live and work in transportation corridors. Every moment of delay carries a cost to human health.

This proposed legislation will reduce Oregon's emissions through a well-designed, market-based carbon pricing program, aligns with Oregon's climate goals, maintains the viability and competitive health of existing Oregon businesses, and mitigates impacts on low-income communities, communities of color, and rural communities.

As a company that values sustainability, and as a member of the Oregon Business Alliance for Climate, we support moving forward with cap and invest legislation that meets these key principles in the 2018 Legislative Session. Importantly, passing the Clean Energy Jobs bill now will also free up the Legislature to focus its attention on revenue in 2019 and position our state to be a leader in the growing clean energy economy as the 21st century unfolds.

Our families, farmers, business owners, fishermen and firefighters are all bearing the burden of climate pollution – today in the way of drought, wildfires, extreme weather, and rising acid levels in oceans. The cost to our state in these regards cannot be stated strongly enough.

As the Statesman Journal just noted in its endorsement of passing this legislation in the 2018 Short Session, "Oregon's pioneering spirit shouldn't end with the bottle and beach bills. It's time for Oregon's Legislative Assembly to prioritize our air quality and pass the cap-and-trade legislation". We couldn't agree more. We have done the hard planning work. The time to act is now.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to speak with you further about this important legislation.

Rob Elam

Founder, CEO

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