



January 22, 1919

Chair Dembrow, members of the Committee, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of the Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) in support of SCR 1 regarding pumped storage hydroelectric projects.

CREA is an ORS 190 intergovernmental association. Members include counties, irrigation districts, project developers, for-profit businesses and non-profit organizations. CREA works with local communities, counties, the Oregon Public Utilities Commission, other state and federal agencies, and the Legislature to advocate for improved policies that support development of more community renewable energy in Oregon.

CREA has been aware of and working with the National Grid and Rye Development, the developers of the proposed pumped storage projects located near Goldendale WA and Klamath Falls for some time. CREA supports the development of these projects. CREA believes that, as we transition toward more renewables in the West, we have reached the time where the discussion of viable storage at sufficient scale is necessary. Studies have demonstrated that large scale energy storage, such as pump hydro storage and the Swan Lake and Goldendale projects, will be an essential component of a low or zero carbon electricity grid. While battery storage may also play a role, particularly at the electric distribution level, for longer duration storage, pump hydro storage is the more proven, cost effective technology. Virtually all of the existing large scale energy storage in the United States is in the form of pump hydro storage and it comprises 98% of all of the energy storage globally.

Both of these projects will provide significant benefits to the local economies adjacent to their locations. The Swan Lake project is estimated to cost 800 million dollars, generate thousands of construction jobs over a 3 to 5 year construction window, provide dozens of permanent O&M jobs over decades, and provide millions of dollars in annual property taxes to Klamath County. While located in Klickitat County, and EcoNorthwest study has shown that the estimated \$2.25B project will provide significant economic benefits to north central Oregon as well as Washington, hence CREA members' support of both these projects. We also believe that these two projects, located in key strategic locations on the region's transmission system will also stimulate the construction of additional renewable energy projects in Oregon providing our member communities further economic benefit.

Respectfully Submitted

Brian Skeahan

Executive Director, Community Renewable Energy Association

