



April 21, 2020

Minnesota House of Representatives, Energy and Climate Finance and Policy Division
100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for Energy Conservation and Optimization (“ECO”) H.F. 4502/S.F. 4409

Dear Chair Wagenius, Vice Chair Long, Minority Lead Swedzinski, and Committee Members,

As businesses working in Minnesota’s clean energy sector, we write today about the bipartisan Energy Conservation and Optimization Act of 2020 (commonly referred to as “ECO”). This legislation will provide new energy efficient options to businesses and residential customers, while also driving local job growth through technological innovation and the development of new utility programs. We support ECO and respectfully ask for your support of the bill as well.

Energy efficiency is our cheapest and cleanest energy resource. Energy waste reduction is common sense - it costs less to save one kilowatt hour of electricity (about 2 cents) than to buy a kilowatt hour (about 8 cents). Providing additional energy efficiency options is a smart economic decision and one that benefits all Minnesotans. Energy efficiency through the Conservation Improvement Program (“CIP”) reduces energy waste and ultimately saves customers money on their bills. CIP has already provided over \$6 billion in net benefits to the state.

ECO builds upon the success of CIP providing important additional opportunities to achieve energy savings through load management and efficient fuel-switching. These changes empower Minnesota’s businesses and customers to choose the best, most cost-effective energy technologies to meet their needs.

Minnesota's clean energy businesses thrive on innovation and forward-thinking policy, and that is what we humbly ask for your help with this session. At the end of 2018, the energy efficiency sector employed more than 46,000 Minnesotans working across the state. ECO will serve as a critical engine to support and grow jobs in this challenging economic time.

We ask that you support ECO and usher in opportunities to leverage our cheapest and cleanest energy resource. Thank you for your work and for supporting our state's economy in this unprecedented situation.

Sincerely,

Gregg Mast
Executive Director
Clean Energy Economy MN

Deepinder Singh
CEO
75F

Ken Smith
President and CEO
Ever-Green Energy

Rick Carter
CEO
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Julian White
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Kris Leaf
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