

March 24, 2021

Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee

Dear Chair Long and Committee Members:

Sierra Club asks for your support of HF 1750 to establish a state Energy Transition Legacy Office.

The Sierra Club is the nation's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization. In Minnesota, we represent 80,000 members and supporters, empowered to protect communities by addressing our state's most urgent environmental issues.

To avert the worst impacts of the climate crisis, Minnesota must commit to and plan for a just transition to 100% clean energy. A just transition moves our economy off of fossil fuels and toward clean energy, while providing just pathways for workers to transition to high-quality work with integrity, supporting community led transition, and repairing environmental injustices by equitably distributing the benefits of clean energy.

As we make this transition to clean energy in our electricity system, we must provide support to the workers and communities who will be impacted by the closure of legacy power plants. These workers and communities have been powering our communities in Minnesota while providing family-supporting jobs and generating local tax revenue. We must work together to support this transition.

House file 1750 is an important step forward in addressing this issue. Creating an Energy Transition Legacy Office and developing a Minnesota Energy Transition Legacy Plan with an advisory council made up of community leaders and workers will provide meaningful long-term support through this energy transition.

Sincerely,

Jessica Tritsch Senior Campaign Representative Beyond Coal to Clean Energy Campaign Peter Wagenius Legislative & Political Director North Star Chapter