



March 29, 2022

Minnesota House of Representatives
Climate and Energy Finance & Policy Committee
517 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Honorable Chair Long, Vice Chair Acomb and Committee Members:

MN350 Action is the political and advocacy home for Minnesotans concerned about protecting our climate. It is the companion organization to MN350, a statewide group with 30,000 supporters working to make Minnesota a national leader in a just transition to a clean energy economy.

At MN350 Action, we envision a world free from the devastating effects of fossil-fuel consumption. A world where energy is renewable, sustainable, locally produced, and abundantly available to all. We imagine our children and grandchildren inheriting a future with clean water, clean air and a stable, healthy climate.

We therefore welcome and support the following timely and much welcomed appropriations in [House Bill 4654](#) "Commerce's Supplemental Energy Bill" this session:

- \$34,500,000 in fiscal year 2023 for the **weatherization assistance program** to assist households that are eligible under the Minnesota weatherization assistance program state plan.
- \$3,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is to **expand the solar for schools program**
- \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is from the renewable development account for **grants under the renewable integration demonstration program**
- \$20,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for transfer to the state competitiveness account in the special revenue fund to **leverage federal formula and competitive funds for energy-related infrastructure and clean energy investments** throughout Minnesota.
- \$18,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for the water utility energy resilience program
- \$34,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is for transfer to the **Minnesota green innovation finance fund** under Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.441, to capitalize the fund and provide the necessary administrative start-up costs. Beginning July 1, 2024, and each year thereafter, the commissioner of commerce may request up to \$100,000 on an annual basis to perform oversight activities
- \$35,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 is to establish a ten-year **decarbonization technology investment fund**

Thank you for wisely steering timely funds toward renewable energy and energy efficiency investments that will protect human health, lives and livelihoods that are beneficial to all.

Janette Dean on behalf of the
MN350 Action Policy Action Team