



February 22, 2023

Representative Hodan Hassan
Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee
597 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hassan and Members of the Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee,

Center for Energy and Environment (“CEE”) respectfully submits this letter to express our full support for HF 1398 that will aid in the transition of communities who currently host retiring power plants.

In 2019, CEE led the Minnesota Host Community Study, with the support of the Coalition of Utility Cities. Through that study, we worked with six different Minnesota power plant communities facing retirements in the coming years, and several unions representing the men and women who work in those plants. That study highlights the complex and multi-dimensional challenges communities and workers face as these power plants retire. The unique insights from the Minnesota Host Community Report make CEE a strong supporter of legislation that assists communities during this transition.

It is critical to direct focused attention and resources on the needs of communities who host large power plants that will eventually retire and be replaced, and the workforce who earn their living there, in order to help manage the economic and societal impacts of those retirements. This bill takes a substantial step along this path, to provide significant resources to help mitigate the impact of plant retirements on these communities.

Thank you to the committee for considering the bill and to all who have worked to develop it.

Sincerely,

/s/ Audrey Partridge
Director of Policy
Center for Energy and Environment