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The Honorable Greg Davids
Chair, Taxes Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
658 Cedar Street, 2nd Floor
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Davids and Committee Members,

Fresh Energy is a 30-year-old, Minnesota-based nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization. We work to shape and drive bold policy solutions to achieve equitable carbon-neutral economies. We appreciate the opportunity to share our concerns regarding House File 9.

Minnesota has a well-established track record of public policy support for affordable clean energy. When Minnesota's first renewable energy standard was passed in 2007 there were concerns from some stakeholders about both affordability and feasibility. In reality, Minnesota utilities successfully met full compliance with the standard nearly seven years early, and without adverse impacts on electricity costs. Fresh Energy strongly believes that policymakers should work to ensure that electricity costs remain affordable, and that clean energy is a vital tool for achieving this goal. Minnesota's utilities, energy stakeholders, and regulators have shown that they are clearly up to the job.

The 100 percent law is a much more recent landmark piece of public policy. It's important to remember that it is still quite new—the law was passed in 2023, barely two years ago. Implementation is still underway, and we have more than five years until the first compliance benchmark. The law was also designed flexibly, with reasonable off-ramps and compliance mechanisms. While Minnesota's energy landscape is dynamic and demand needs can and do change, the 100 percent law anticipated this in its design.

Minnesota has developed a comprehensive energy strategy designed to foster innovation, create jobs, and position Minnesota as a leader in the clean energy economy. The 100 percent law is a critical component of this strategy and should not be subjected to unnecessary and complicated changes at this time. For this reason, we recommend that members oppose House File 9.

Sincerely,

Allen Gleckner
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