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March 1, 2023

The Honorable Hodan Hassan  
Chair, Minnesota House Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee  
597 Minnesota State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hassan 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 offer our perspective on House File 1398 (Hill).

Fresh Energy supports HF 1398. As Minnesota continues to transition its electric supply from legacy generation to new, carbon-free generation, it is critical that the communities and regional economies hosting our legacy plants, and those that will retire in the coming years, are not forgotten or left behind. HF 1398 is one important program to help ensure a just transition to carbon-free electricity.

Minnesota's existing power plants provide family-supporting jobs, local tax revenue, and an economic core for the communities that host them. HF 1398 does not solve all of the challenges facing Minnesota's existing power plant host communities, but it does provide additional, critical support for those communities to plan for and implement forward-facing strategies during this time of transition. Fresh Energy is firmly committed to supporting the needs of our existing utility host communities and workers during this time of unprecedented change for Minnesota's energy system, and we thank Representative Hill for championing this bill.

Sincerely,

Allen Gleckner  
Executive Lead, Policy and Programs  
Fresh Energy  
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