



March 25, 2021

Representative Jamie Long
Minnesota House of Representatives
517 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Buy Clean and Buy Fair Minnesota Act (HF XXX – Lislegard)

Dear Chair Long and Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee members:

The Center for Energy and Environment is pleased to support Buy Clean and Buy Fair Minnesota Act, which incorporates low-carbon construction requirements into government purchasing and procurement. Buy Clean can leverage the purchasing power of public agencies to encourage a shift toward lower-carbon construction materials through a combination of disclosures, incentives, and standards.

Often raw and building materials are internationally sourced and competitive, typically with little consideration to the carbon intensity to manufacturer or transport those products. Considering a supplier's emission performance can reduce inequities that are not monetized and reduce the competition from bad actors. Additionally, manufacturers would be encouraged to utilize low-and-no carbon emitting energy sources and reduce their climate pollution.

The Buy Fair provisions of this bill create the opportunity to reward manufactures that have safe and healthy working conditions, in addition to good wages and benefits. Together, the Buy Clean and Buy Fair components provide an important step forward in addressing the climate challenge, and we are happy to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Jamie Fitzke
Legislative Policy Manager
Center for Energy and Environment

Nels Paulson
Policy Director
Conservation Minnesota