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**Mars Incorporated\***  
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Nature's Path Foods  
**Nestle USA\***  
New Belgium Brewing  
Nike, Inc.  
NortonLifeLock  
Outdoor Industry Association  
Palisades Tahoe  
PayPal  
**Recreational Equipment Inc.\***  
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Sierra Nevada Brewing  
Snowsports Industries America  
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**Starbucks**  
Stonyfield Farm  
The North Face  
Tiffany & Co.  
Timberland  
**Trane\***  
Unilever  
**Vail Resorts\***  
VF Corporation  
**Workday\***  
Worthen Industries

January 17, 2023

Rep. Patty Acomb  
Chair, Committee on Climate &  
Energy Finance and Policy  
Minnesota House of Representatives

Rep. Larry Craft  
Vice Chair, Committee on Climate &  
Energy Finance and Policy  
Minnesota House of Representatives

Rep. Chris Swedzinski  
Republican Lead, Committee on  
Climate & Energy Finance and Policy  
Minnesota House of Representatives

**Ceres BICEP Network Support for 100% Clean Energy by 2040 (HF 7 / SF 4)**

Dear Chair Acomb, Vice Chair Craft, and Republican Lead Swedzinski:

On behalf of the [Ceres](#) Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP) Network, a coalition of more than 80 major employers and manufacturers across the United States, several of whom have operations and facilities in Minnesota, **I write to express our support for the 100% Clean Energy by 2040 legislation (HF 7 / SF 4).**

We commend the Walz administration and House and Senate leaders for their commitment to fully decarbonizing the state's electricity mix by 2040, in alignment with the [Minnesota Climate Action Framework](#). While Minnesota's electric sector has made significant progress towards its decarbonization goals and is on track to achieve greater greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions through the Energy Conservation & Optimization Act of 2021, additional action like HF 7 / SF 4 is necessary to meet the state's longer-term goal of achieving an equitable net zero emission economy that benefits all Minnesotans.

The Ceres BICEP Network supports this legislation because it would help businesses address the significant risk posed by climate change, safeguard the competitiveness of their supply chains, and allow them to meet the growing demands of their customers and investors. Many Minnesota businesses have made ambitious commitments to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and have recently [voiced](#) their support for the state's transition to a net zero emission economy by 2050. Passage of HF 7 / SF 4 will help Minnesota grow a prosperous and equitable clean energy economy that allows companies to meet their climate goals.

HF 7 / SF 4 defines environmental justice areas and prescribes new and important regulatory requirements to consider impacts to environmental justice areas when evaluating utility proposals. As Minnesota transitions to a net zero economy, we must ensure that those who have historically borne a disproportionate burden of climate pollution are provided direct and equitable access to clean energy and are truly able to reap the benefits.

The businesses in our coalition take the urgent threat of climate change seriously and recognize the significant opportunity for Minnesota to do the same. Passing HF 7 / SF 4 is an important step to achieving the longer-term goal of carbon neutrality and will send a signal that Minnesota continues to be a leader in the transition to a clean energy economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony, and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.



Sincerely,

**Anne L. Kelly**

Vice President Government Relations,

On behalf of Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP)

*For additional information, please contact Deana Dennis, Senior Manager of State Policy at Ceres ([ddennis@ceres.org](mailto:ddennis@ceres.org)).*

\*The [Ceres BICEP Network](http://www.ceres.org/BICEP) comprises influential companies advocating for stronger climate and clean energy policies at the state and federal level in the U.S. **Ceres BICEP Members listed in bold on the page above have direct operations in Minnesota.** For more information on the Ceres BICEP Network, visit [www.ceres.org/BICEP](http://www.ceres.org/BICEP).