



April 6, 2022

Minnesota House of Representatives
Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee
State Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for House Omnibus Energy bill

Dear Chair Long and Committee Members,

On behalf of Clean Energy Economy MN (CEEM), I write today in support of HF 3337, the House Energy Omnibus bill. This piece of legislation includes many of the important and popular provisions our members support and will drive Minnesota forward towards our clean energy future.

CEEM is an industry-led, nonprofit organization representing the business voice of clean energy in Minnesota. We work to educate Minnesotans about the economic benefits of transitioning to a clean energy economy and are committed to growing and strengthening Minnesota's clean energy business ecosystem. Our membership consists of more than 40 clean energy companies, ranging from start-up businesses to Fortune 100 and 500 corporations that employ thousands of Minnesotans across the state.

We thank Chair Long and Committee Members for their leadership to advance the House Energy Omnibus. Particularly, we are pleased several CEEM priorities are a part of the final House Energy bill, including:

- Additional funding and extension of Solar*Rewards through 2025, matching the Senate's proposal;
- Allowing cities to adopt the latest energy code for commercial buildings before the rest of the state;
- Establishing the green innovation finance fund, which will provide funding and unlock private investments to deploy clean technologies across our state; and
- Creating the Grants for Renewable Integration and Demonstration (GRID) program to provide crucial incentives and support for innovators, sending a clear market and policy signal that will attract additional investment and further market development.

Another key component in this omnibus bill is a total of \$20 million in funding for the state's competitiveness fund. This pool of money is vital to making sure Minnesota can leverage available federal funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to bring millions of infrastructure dollars to our state. Many of the competitive programs available through the IIJA will go online and have deadlines between the time the 2022 Legislative Session ends and before the 2023 Legislative Session begins, so it is vital that a state-level pool of funds exist for Minnesota to be positioned to capture federal funds.

HF 3337 makes many positive changes to drive Minnesota towards a clean energy future. We look forward to continuing this conversation over the next few weeks.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our support for this bill. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,

George Damian
Director of Government Affairs
gdamian@cleanenergyeconomy.org