



Conservation Voters FOR IDAHO

Hollie Conde, Senior Legislative & Lands Coordinator
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Re: Support HB96

February 22, 2023

Members of the Senate State Affairs Committee:

At Conservation Voters for Idaho, we have worked with Idaho communities to establish clean energy plans that center the goals and values of that community. With an interest in helping those communities achieve their clean energy goals, we ask you to support House Bill 96.

Since 2018, we have seen commitments to clean energy across Idaho from utilities, cities, counties, businesses, and Idaho National Lab. Approximately three out of every four Idahoans are living in a community or service area that has passed a clean energy commitment.

We have seen these commitments, and robust plans to achieve them, because 68.5% of Idahoans support the State of Idaho transitioning to clean energy by 2050. **Simply put, clean energy is very popular in Idaho. Our communities understand the benefits to clean air and clean water, as well as the importance of preventing the harmful impacts of emissions.**

They also understand the immense value clean energy has for Idaho's economy. Our state does not have vast resources of coal, oil, or natural gas. What we do have though, is ample space for responsibly sited renewable energy projects, exciting opportunities to expand our nation-leading geothermal energy, and the resources and expertise of the Idaho National Laboratory.

Therefore, we support the changes in House Bill 96. This legislation centers the focus on reducing emissions and allows us to take advantage of ALL of our clean energy resources.

Respectfully,
Hollie Conde

Joyce Brewer

From: Jerry Riener [redacted]
Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 10:21 PM
To: Joyce Brewer
Subject: House Bill 96 Public Testimony

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Thank you for allowing the opportunity to provide testimony.

House Bill 96, on the surface sounds great. However, defining nuclear energy as "clean" is misleading. Nuclear power is not clean, and the building of nuclear power is not clean. Nuclear has had billions of dollars in funding, thousands of hours of research, and decades of time to figure itself out. Which it has not done.

Idaho has fought for years against nuclear coming to Idaho. In fact we even had a referendum that states Idaho's stance on one of the specifics of nuclear, its waste. The Federal government has continuously wanted to place nuclear and nuclear waste in Idaho. Redefining it as "clean" will open that door up. Allowing it to be defined, and have a funding mechanism goes against what Idahoans voted on in 1994, and has continuously demonstrated against.

I would recommend the State Affairs committee to either make amendments to the bill, striking out the word nuclear, or not allow the bill out of committee until proper consideration for the concept of "clean" has been examined.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jerry Riener

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