



**May 16, 2022**

Members of Conference Committee on SF 4091  
Omnibus Jobs, Energy, and Commerce Bill  
Minnesota Capitol  
75 Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: Regarding the energy provisions contained within SF 4091**

Dear Jobs, Energy, and Commerce Omnibus Conference Committee Members,

On behalf of Clean Energy Economy MN (CEEM), we write today to express appreciation for the work by both bodies, all session long and into this conference committee process. The SF 4091 legislation includes important provisions that our business members support and will drive Minnesota forward towards a prosperous 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.

Some of the key provisions we support to help modernize and improve Minnesota's infrastructure, lower the cost of energy, and help transition Minnesota to a clean energy future include:

- Additional \$20 million in funding and extension of Solar\*Rewards through 2025, present in both bills.
- Expanding the C-PACE loan program to allow energy efficient agricultural improvements to be made to land or water, present in both bills.
- Allowing cities to adopt the latest energy code for commercial buildings before the rest of the state, found in House Provision 210.7 - 210.17.
- 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, House Provision 287.26 - 289.25.

We also strongly encourage and support the Energy Alley Start-Up Fund (House Provision 284.27) to be included in the final agreement to help make Minnesota a hub for clean energy technology innovation, job creation, and economic activity. We do ask that a slight language tweak be made to ensure non-state partners -- such as private-sector and NGOs already in the clean energy innovation space, are eligible for these funds to continue their mission serving these qualified businesses.

Another key component for our members is the creation and funding for the state's competitiveness fund. This pool of money is vital to ensure 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. It is vital that a state-level pool of funds exist for Minnesota to be competitively positioned to capture federal funds.



Thank you for the opportunity to share these important priorities for our business members. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregg Mast".

Gregg Mast  
Executive Director  
Clean Energy Economy MN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Damian".

George Damian  
Director of Government Affairs  
Clean Energy Economy MN