



February 10, 2021

Representative Jamie Long, Chair  
Representative Zack Stephenson  
Members, House Climate and Energy Finance and Policy Committee  
Minnesota State Office Building  
100 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Clean Energy First – HF 10

Dear Chair Long, Representative Stephenson, and members:

I write to express the Citizens Utility Board's support for HF 10 (Stephenson), the Clean Energy First bill. The Citizens Utility Board (CUB) is a nonprofit advocate for Minnesota's residential and small business energy consumers. As such, we support legislation that promotes utility affordability, consumer protection, and a rapid and pragmatic transition to clean energy.

At its core, the Clean Energy First bill advances a simple, consumer-friendly framework for electric utility resource planning: If using clean energy can be affordable and reliable, then we should. If, in a particular case, using only clean energy options would be too expensive or would make the electricity system unreliable, then it is reasonable to use fossil fuel sources as well. This bill makes the priorities clear – carbon-free, affordable energy and electricity system reliability – and then provides that decisions be made in each case based on the facts. Utility resource decisions involve very complex, technical questions, which is why state law delegates decision-making on the details of these questions to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). This bill sets the goals and parameters, and then asks the PUC to do its job.

Thank you, Representative Stephenson and Chair Long, for advancing this common-sense framework. CUB encourages committee members to support this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Annie Levenson-Falk', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Annie Levenson-Falk  
Executive Director