



March 1, 2021

Representative Jamie Long
Chair, Committee on Climate and Energy Finance and Policy
Minnesota House of Representatives
517 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF XXXX Minnesota Green Finance Authority (Rep. Lippert)
March 1, 2021 version

Dear Chair Long and members of the committee:

The Center for Energy and Environment sincerely appreciates Rep. Lippert's willingness to work with a broad range of stakeholders, including CEE, on this legislation.

Minnesota has a robust network of community-focused clean energy lenders that include the credit unions, community banks, governmental lenders such as the St. Paul Port Authority and non-profit lenders like the Center for Energy and Environment. CEE's goal for the Minnesota Green Finance Authority legislation would be to establish an entity that would: (1) identify gaps in the current clean energy financing programs offered by members of that network of local lenders, especially with regard to unserved or underserved communities in our state; and (2) support and supplement, rather than supplant, the work of those lenders to address those gaps. We believe that Rep. Lippert shares that goal.

The March 1, 2021 draft of Rep. Lippert's Green Finance Authority legislation reflects great progress toward that shared goal, incorporating changes that CEE and others have recommended. We thank Rep. Lippert for these improvements and look forward to continuing to work with him and others on this important legislation as it moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Bull". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mike Bull, Director
Policy and External Affairs