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February 13, 2023

**RE: Support for Minnesota Competitiveness Fund,** 

Honorable Chair Acomb and members of the Climate and Energy Finance and Policy committee,

Connexus Energy supports the legislation necessary for Minnesota to access matching funds and compete for federal funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), and CHIPs Science Act.

Minnesota needs to fully fund our state agencies, set aside resources to cover government match requirements, and assist smaller entities by providing the technical assistance resources necessary for them to compete for these federal grant opportunities.

Connexus Energy is Minnesota's largest nonprofit electric cooperative and one of the 20 largest retail electric cooperatives nationwide, serving more than 330,000 people (145,000 meters) in portions of eight North Metro counties. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure all of Minnesota can reap the rewards of the historic federal opportunities ahead.

Sincerely,

Rob Davis

Rob Davis Public Affairs, Programs, and Media Relations Connexus Energy