



PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release

DATE: 11/16/2022

CONTACT: Kaitlin Nguyen, kaitlin@quinnthomas.com, (253) 209-0460

State Study Recommends Next Steps for Renewable Hydrogen in Oregon

Renewable Hydrogen Alliance requested the study in 2021 to learn more about how hydrogen could help decarbonize Oregon's economy.

Salem, Ore. – On Tuesday, the Oregon Department of Energy released [a study](#) outlining how renewable hydrogen might help reduce carbon emissions in Oregon. The study recommends taking strategic advantage of renewable hydrogen by developing a renewable hydrogen roadmap as part of a larger state energy strategy.

The Oregon legislature passed [SB 333](#) in 2021 at the request of the Renewable Hydrogen Alliance (RHA) to help inform lawmakers and regulators about the wide-ranging applications for renewable hydrogen.

“The report does a good job presenting a clear picture of opportunities and challenges that surround the development of renewable hydrogen,” said Michelle Detwiler, Executive Director of the Renewable Hydrogen Alliance. “A renewable hydrogen roadmap will help decarbonize Oregon’s economy by guiding the safe, clean and strategic development of renewable hydrogen in the region.”

The study analyzed the benefits and barriers of renewable hydrogen. Benefits included supporting reliability of the electrical grid, providing energy resiliency and helping reduce emissions from hard to decarbonize industries addressed including heating, transportation and industrial applications. The Department of Energy recognized that strategies will be needed to reduce the cost to develop renewable hydrogen and policies are needed ensure infrastructure is developed safely and efficiently.

Detwiler added, “We fully support the recommendations in the study and appreciate the hard work of agency staff who compiled this well-researched, thoughtful and holistic analysis of

renewable hydrogen. This report provides a useful framework for how legislators can promote decarbonization as we head into legislative session.”

The Department of Energy recommends:

1. **Determining the appropriate role for renewable hydrogen in Oregon** – This includes developing a state energy strategy that includes a clear definition of renewable hydrogen.
2. **Build the Oregon renewable hydrogen roadmap** – A roadmap would consider ways to collaborate within the state and region to identify key sectors, priorities and strategies for developing renewable hydrogen.
3. **Ensure safety and equity** – This recommendation includes a request for new codes and standards to ensure the safe handling and use of renewable hydrogen. It also recommends the developments of workforce programs and labor standards so that development programs advance diversity, reduce environmental health disparities and promote equitable distribution of health and environmental benefits of renewable hydrogen.

About Renewable Hydrogen Alliance:

Founded in June of 2018, the Renewable Hydrogen Alliance promotes using renewable electricity to produce hydrogen and other climate neutral fuels to replace fossil fuel consumption. RHA engages in policy advocacy and education to advance renewable power as a critical step to reducing dependence on fossil fuels. RHA has over 75 members including project developers, electric and gas utility companies, clean energy advocacy organizations, law firms, consultants, transit agencies, and manufacturers of hydrogen electrolyzers, fuel cells, and fuel cell vehicles.

###