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August 21, 2015

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Attn: Filing Center
201 High Street, S.E.
P.O. Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

Subject: UM 1690, Business Oregon's General Comments on Voluntary Renewable Energy Tariffs for Non-Residential Customers

Dear Public Utility Commission of Oregon,

Business Oregon, the state's economic development agency, has a mission is to grow jobs, companies and communities. In the course of our work, we hear from a broad spectrum of Oregon companies about their needs and challenges. We know that they're always looking for a competitive advantage that allows them to grow their operations and add jobs in our state. If Oregon invests in viable sustainability measures, such as renewable energy, that could help our companies distinguish themselves from their competitors.

When Oregon companies can identify a specific source of ingredients or processes to manufacture their products, that helps them meet growing customer demand to understand what goes into products they consume. Large domestic and international companies increasingly set sustainability goals or renewable energy targets. These companies choose their locations and supply chains based on the companies that can help them accomplish those goals. They require suppliers to clearly demonstrate that the products or components they deliver meet these standards.

With a voluntary renewable energy tariff, Oregon companies would have a unique brand such as "organic" or "Made in the U.S.A." It will distinguish them and their products from their competition and make them more successful in the global marketplace.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Samantha Mary Julian'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Samantha Mary Julian, Assistant Director, Business Development