



May 3, 2017

Dear Members of the Colorado Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs:

The Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES), representing individuals and businesses throughout the state, is proud to support HB 17-1339 concerning authorization to issue low-cost ratepayer-backed bonds.

Creation of the Colorado Energy Impact Assistance Authority to mitigate impacts of power plant retirements on Colorado workers and communities provides a unique "win-win-win" situation for ratepayers, utility share-holders, and those who build and operate electrical systems.

CRES supports HB 17-1339 especially because it:

- a. allows (does not demand) Colorado's investor owned utilities to request refinancing of its higher-cost equity for retirement of existing un-economic power plants;
- b. allocates a percentage of the savings from the refinancing to help communities most affected by power plant closures;
- c. encourages the utilities to lower both their and ratepayer's costs;
- d. assists affected communities with property tax transition support;
- e. trains workers for new jobs with good wage-rates.

Thank you for your dedication and service regarding these important issues.

Sincerely,

Vincent Calvano

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Chair, Policy Committee, Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES)

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