

February 8, 2023

Minnesota Senate  
Committee on Energy, Utilities, Environment and Climate  
Minnesota Senate Building  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

RE: Senate File 1171, Advanced nuclear study requirement and appropriation

Dear Chair Frentz, Senator Mathews, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Clean Energy Economy MN (CEEM), I write today on Senate File 1171, a proposal to require the Department of Commerce to study advanced nuclear energy technology and the potential benefits, costs, and impacts on Minnesota. As Minnesota has committed to achieving 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040, it is vital all forms of carbon-free energy be analyzed and understood for its potential to help meet our state's objective. This includes advanced nuclear as well as other firm, carbon-free dispatchable resources such as energy storage technologies.

CEEM is an industry-led, nonpartisan, non-profit organization representing the business voice of energy efficiency and clean energy in Minnesota. We work to educate Minnesotans about the economic benefits of transitioning to a clean energy economy and are committed to delivering a 100% clean energy future where all Minnesota businesses and citizens will thrive. Our business membership is comprised of nearly 50 clean energy companies ranging from start-up businesses to Fortune 100 and 500 corporations that employ tens of thousands of Minnesotans across the state.

CEEM sees exciting potential in advanced nuclear to complement renewable power generation from sources like wind and solar. We support a study weighing the costs and benefits of this new technology. At the same time, in order for this study to be fully inclusive of all available firm, carbon-free dispatchable resources, we would like the study to also examine several other forms of existing and emerging technologies such as energy storage technologies. Minnesota currently has a number of companies working to deliver innovative carbon-free energy storage solutions. Including these technologies along with advanced nuclear in this study would make it even more useful as Minnesota moves toward 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our thoughts on this proposal. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,



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