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March 6, 2023

Minnesota Senate Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate Committee 3409 Minnesota Senate Building 95 University Ave. W Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Frentz and Committee Members,

Fresh Energy is a thirty year-old, Minnesota based nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that is working to achieve equitable carbon neutral economies. We appreciate the opportunity to voice our support for Senate File 1968 (Senator Kunesh).

Much of our energy systems rely on decades-old technology. For example, by the 1930s our electricity distribution system in Minnesota was largely established. Today, the inherited ways of delivering energy into our homes and businesses require updates to be able to take advantage of the fast-moving advances in energy.

Minnesota's Department of Commerce employs experts who specialize in this complex, technical subject area. SF 1968 will ensure that the federally recognized Tribes located within our state are able to access the resources of the Department of Commerce as they address the challenges of modernizing their energy systems in ways that best suit their own needs.

Thank you for your attention to this topic; Fresh Energy enthusiastically supports SF 1968.

Sincerely,

Anna Johnson Senior Associate, Public Affairs Johnson@fresh-energy.org