



February 19, 2023

Chair Nick Frentz, Ranking Member Andrew Mathews
Energy, Utilities, Environment and Climate Committee
Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue W.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Frentz, Ranking Member Mathews, and Committee Members,

I am writing on behalf of the Minnesota Conservative Energy Forum (MnCEF), a non-profit education and advocacy organization that promotes an “all-of-the-above” energy strategy for Minnesota. We encourage policymakers to embrace innovations in clean and affordable energy based on our conservative principles such as economic growth, property rights, personal stewardship, job growth, and national security. I am writing to you today to share MnCEF’s support for Senator Mathews’s bill, SF 2823, appropriating funds to conduct a feasibility study on the use of hydrogen produced by nuclear power plants in Minnesota.

While MnCEF supports the inevitable transition to renewable sources of energy like wind and solar, Minnesota will still need additional sources of energy to replace base load energy currently generated by fossil fuels. MnCEF supports this study as we believe nuclear and hydrogen energy will be a critical piece of meeting the decarbonization goals set by this legislature and supporting the all-of-the-above strategy we need to stabilize and transform the grid for the future. The study would provide a grant to the University of Minnesota Energy Transition Lab to examine the potential economic benefits from the use and potential sale of hydrogen as well as any reductions to carbon emissions that may result from increased hydrogen and nuclear power use. Recently we have seen exciting developments in using hydrogen energy, and this study would equip future legislatures with the information necessary to make well-informed decisions regarding Minnesota’s energy policy to ensure a cleaner, more reliable grid and affordable energy for Minnesotans.

We urge you to support SF 2823 and allow this important study to move forward. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continuing to work toward a cleaner and more reliable energy grid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kayla Christensen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kayla Christensen
Executive Director
Minnesota Conservative Energy Forum