



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 2824, authorizing certificates of need for certain small modular reactors.

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. We believe nuclear energy is 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. This bill would serve as an important tool to not only ensure diversity in sources of energy, but also in the size of energy projects. Utility-scale projects are necessary to achieve our goals, but we will also need more localized sources of energy and this bill will take us one step closer to achieving those goals.

We urge you to support SF 2824 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