



Ceres

Sustainability is the bottom line.

June 19 2019

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Lyft
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Outdoor Industry Association
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Seventh Generation
Sierra Nevada Brewing
Squaw Valley
Starbucks
Stonyfield Farm
Symantec Corporation
Timberland
Unilever
Vail Resorts
VF Corporation
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Worthen Industries

Dear Members of the Michigan House Energy Policy Committee,

As the representative for a coalition of 53 major employers and large electricity customers across the United States, I write on behalf of the Ceres BICEP Network. The Ceres BICEP (Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy) Network is made up of a number of companies with a footprint in Michigan and I write to express our support for House Bill 4477. By enabling microgrids and storage, this bill would remove regulatory barriers to clean energy adoption and strengthen the resiliency and reliability of the grid.

Microgrids can improve the resilience and reliability of the grid. Currently, businesses, hospitals and homeowners with on-site renewable energy aren't able to use their generation or stored energy to power their facilities or homes during power outages and other service disruptions. Enabling microgrids will allow customers to self-power their facilities and homes during disruptions, and share that electricity with neighboring facilities critical to the health, safety and wellbeing of communities. This would ensure businesses, hospitals, schools, fire stations, shelters and the like can keep systems functioning during blackouts. Maintaining constant electric energy during outages, disaster or other emergency is especially important for critical healthcare facilities - where the loss of power can mean the loss of lives.

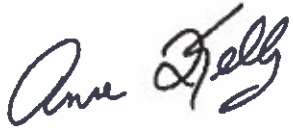
Microgrids with storage can also enhance the benefits of on-site renewables, matching the variability of generation with a facility's demand and creating capacity value for the grid. Enabling microgrids--combined with the increased availability of energy storage technologies and decreasing prices--means that businesses and hospitals will be able to operate with a more flexible, resilient, clean and efficient energy mix, generating savings for their facilities and all ratepayers.

Large energy users--from hospitals to major corporations--value a flexible and resilient electric system that prioritizes cost-effective clean energy resources. Clean energy helps hospitals and businesses save money and hedge against volatile fossil fuel prices, while cleaner air improves public health and leads to a healthy workforce.

We encourage you to support this legislation and remove regulatory barriers to clean energy development in Michigan. This bill would create savings, while

Improving the grid and public health. Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a vertical line to the right of the name.

Anne Kelly

Senior Director, Policy and BICEP Network, Ceres on behalf of the Ceres BICEP Network

For more information on the Ceres BICEP Network visit: <https://www.ceres.org/networks/ceres-policy-network>