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February 21, 2020

SB 887 – Electric Generation – Transition from Fossil Fuels – Carbon Dioxide Emissions Rate and Transition Account

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 Senate Finance Committee OPPOSED

Ray Kasmark, Director Business Development Department, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Dear Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and members of the Finance Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today.

The IBEW has consistently maintained that an all-inclusive portfolio of power generation provides reliability and resiliency to the grid. The need for baseload generation power plants, such as these fossil fueled plants, provide grid stability and allow utilities the options to include thousands of variable renewable generation megawatts to the grid without jeopardizing stability. The IBEW has consistently supported research technologies that would improve CO2 emissions from fossil fueled plants. While renewable power generation technologies provide additional value to a cleaner grid, they have not advanced to the level that would allow baseload generation to be removed and still provide reliable and resilient power 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

IBEW represents workers in all generation sources of electricity including fossil fueled baseload power plants. Baseload generation plants not only provide reliable power but hundreds of thousands of middle-class jobs with benefits. The IBEW supports all technologies that would provide a cleaner reliable power grid while not causing immediate harm to the thousands of our members and other workers in the industry.

Sincerely,

Ray Kasmark Director Business Development Department IBEW