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Clean Energy, Clean Air Initiatives Moving to Next Phase for the Ballot

2,000 Oregonians from around the state add signatures to initiatives

SALEM, Ore. -- The ballot initiatives to transition Oregon off of coal-fired electricity and double the state's commitment to renewable energy are set to move on to the next phase of qualifying for the ballot in November 2016.

Renew Oregon submitted 2,000 signatures to the Oregon Secretary of State on both Initiative 63 and 64, collected by volunteers and the campaign. The Secretary of State will certify those signatures in the next week or so. Oregonians from 67 different cities and towns make up the mix of signatories -- from as far east as Kimberly, OR to Coos Bay on the coast, Hillsboro to Ashland and dozens of places in between.

"This is an effort for all Oregonians, from all walks of life. We'll be the first state in history to go coal-free by a vote of the people," said **Margaret Ngai, a nurse and a chief petitioner on the measures.** "A clean energy economy is an opportunity for many communities to prosper and protect what we value about the places we live and the health of our families."

The next step to qualify for the ballot will be to work with the Attorney General's office to find a title for the ballot measures. Once that is accomplished, a much larger signature gathering campaign will kick off.

"Oregonians see the value in a clean energy economy and having our state be a leader in that area. It did not take a long time to gather these signatures," said **Thomas Wheatley, Campaign Director for Renew Oregon.** "Once people learn Oregon still receives one-third of its electricity from an out-dated and polluting method like burning coal, they say 'where do I sign?'"

Initiative Petition 63 will require that large utilities phase out power generated from coal-fired power plants by 2030 in Oregon and obtain 50% of new generation from renewable sources like wind and solar by 2040.

Initiative Petition 64 will do all of the above with the addition of an added a mechanism that will ensure corporate compliance with the law. If utilities fail to comply with the pollution reduction standards in the measure, executive salaries will be adjusted in line with their performance.

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[Renew Oregon](#) is a clean energy advocacy [coalition](#) of businesses and workers, healthcare professionals and parents, farmers and ranchers, faith and community organizations, and individuals coming together to move our state away from polluting energy to a clean energy economy. We are working to create good-paying jobs for all Oregonians, protect air and water from pollution, and help families stay healthy.