WHEREAS: Minnesota’s nation-leading clean energy policies have set the table for innovators, entrepreneurs, and skilled workers to make clean energy thrive, helping decarbonize our state, creating jobs, and growing our economy; and

WHEREAS: The state is a globally recognized hub for clean energy development and deployment, with 25 percent of all electricity in Minnesota coming from renewable sources in 2018; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota is home to 61,047 clean energy jobs, and is experiencing a job growth rate 2.5 times faster than the overall economy, with employers projected to have added 4,200 new jobs in 2019; and

WHEREAS: Clean energy jobs employ Minnesotans throughout the state, with nearly 40 percent of jobs located in Greater Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota’s Building Trades unions have helped to lay the foundation for the state’s success by recruiting and training a highly skilled clean energy workforce; and

WHEREAS: Energy efficiency provides 14 percent of our state’s energy needs and has helped save Minnesotans more than $6 billion in energy costs; and

WHEREAS: The solar industry is currently a $1.9 billion force in Minnesota, reaching 12 gigawatts of installed capacity in 2019, and is poised for continued growth with utility-scale solar prices falling 88 percent in the last decade; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota’s Community Solar Garden program is the largest in the nation, providing 635 megawatts of capacity statewide and serving as a model for other states across the country; and

WHEREAS: Wind energy contributed 18 percent of the state’s total electricity in 2018, while wind energy prices dropped 69 percent from 2009 to 2019 making it price competitive with certain fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS: Clean energy encompasses thriving business sectors including energy efficiency, renewable energy, electric vehicles, clean fuels, energy storage, and advanced grid technologies that are critical to the health and economic growth of our state and its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, March 4, 2020, as:

CLEAN ENERGY BUSINESS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 28th day of February.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE