## 76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 2622 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY CARRIER: Rep. Boone

House Committee on Energy, Environment and Water

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

**Action:** Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed

**Vote:** 7 - 0 - 1

Yeas: Bentz, Boone, Krieger, Thompson, Witt, Cannon, Gilliam

Nays: 0 Exc.: Bailey

**Prepared By:** Liz Puskar, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 4/12, 4/14

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Revises Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to include any electricity generated from renewable energy source provided generating facility previously burned coal as fuel source, ceased to do so, and converts to renewable energy source after effective date of measure.

## **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Plans by Portland General Electric to burn biomass rather than coal at Boardman Power Plant
- Effect of recent rules by Department of Environmental Quality on Boardman Power Plant
- Portland General Electric's options for compliance with RPS
- Intent of RPS statute in excluding power generation facilities built prior to a certain date

## **EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:** The Oregon Renewable Portfolio Standard (ORS 469A), enacted in 2007, directs Oregon utilities to meet a percentage of their retail electricity needs with qualified renewable resources. For Oregon's three largest utilities (Portland General Electric, PacifiCorp and the Eugene Water and Electric Board), the standard starts at 5 percent in 2011, increases to 15 percent in 2015, 20 percent in 2020, and 25percent in 2025. Other electric utilities in the state, depending on size, have standards of 5 percent or 10 percent in 2025. Eligible resources include biomass, geothermal, hydropower, ocean thermal, solar, tidal, wave, wind and hydrogen. House Bill 2622 A revises the RPS to allow any electricity generated provided certain criteria are met.