76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY MEASURE: HB 2622 A CARRIER: Sen. Beyer

Senate Committee on Business, Transportation, and Economic Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 6 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Atkinson, Burdick, Edwards, Girod, Starr, Beyer

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Richard Berger, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Revises Renewable Portfolio Standard 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:

- Reuse of Boardman Power Plant
- Effect of recent rules by Department of Environmental Quality on Boardman Power Plant
- Definition of renewable energy
- Effect of measure if a renewable energy power plant is converted to coal power plant

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), codified in ORS 469A, was enacted in 2007 and 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 five 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 five 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.