



Oregon

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Date April 11, 2013

TO: The Honorable Jules Bailey, Chair
House Energy and Environment Committee

FROM: Michael Morrissey, Policy Analyst
Department of Land Conservation and Development

RE: HB 2704 Testimony

Chair Bailey and committee members,

The department has participated in a workgroup assembled by Representative Smith to address energy siting issues brought to his attention by two Eastern Oregon counties. Those counties wanted to find a way to encourage transmission lines connecting energy generating facilities to the grid to be sited on less productive farmland, while protecting high value and arable farmland, where possible. The workgroup, representative of a variety of interests, met several times to successfully craft the bill before you. We appreciate having been a part of this process and are happy to support the recommendation of the workgroup to present this bill to you for your consideration.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with information about HB 2704. If committee members have questions about this testimony, I may be reached at 503-373-0050 Ext 320, or through email at Michael.Morrissey@state.or.us.