



TESTIMONY OF BETH VARGAS DUNCAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OREGON MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITIES ASSOCIATION

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
APRIL 11, 2013

Chair Bailey, Vice Chairs, Members of the Committee, I am Beth Vargas Duncan, Executive Director of the Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association. I appreciate the opportunity to be here today and comment on HB 2807 regarding the Energy Suppliers Assessment (ESA) that our members pay to the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE).

I appreciate all the work everyone has contributed toward the development of amendment language in HB 2807-1 and HB 2807-2, but there is still work to be done.

Specifically, OMEU is seeking the following items.

- Greater accountability from ODOE regarding where and how the ESA funds are spent
- Earlier determination of ODOE's ESA funding, so payers have a better idea of what will be required – ideally this would occur prior to the end of the legislative session
- An opportunity for the payers to have an effective dialogue with the Director of ODOE about ESA funding prior to determining the amount
- A reduction in the ESA cap
- Quarterly budget information from ODOE to the payers regarding ESA expenditures

Through our discussions in the Governor's ESA Advisory Committee meetings, I am not aware of opposition to these concepts, but I also do not believe the proposed amendment language (HB 2807-1 and HB 2807-2) adequately addresses them. I look forward to the opportunity to work further on this issue.

Thank you for your time and attention. I am happy to answer any questions.

Beth Vargas Duncan, Executive Director
Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association