



American Planning Association
Oregon Chapter

PO Box 3674 Wilsonville, OR 97070
 8699 Sun Place Wilsonville, OR 97070
 PHONE: (503) 594-0323 • FAX: (503) 210-0860
oapa@oregonapa.org • <http://www.oregonapa.org>

Making Great Communities Happen

PRESIDENT

Brian Campbell, FAICP

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Jason Franklin, AICP

VICE PRESIDENT

Damian Syrrnyck, AICP

SECRETARY

Read Stapleton, AICP

TREASURER

John Russell, AICP

AT-LARGE

DIRECTORS

Alwin Turiel, AICP

Terri Harding, AICP

Ann Pytynia, AICP

Peter Gutowsky, AICP

PLANNING

COMMISSIONER

REPRESENTATIVES

City: Ric Stephens

County: David Sykes

PROFESSIONAL

DEVELOPMENT

OFFICER

Jon Makler, AICP

EDUCATION &

OUTREACH

Angela Lazarean

LEGISLATIVE &

POLICY AFFAIRS

Jeannine Rustad, Chair

STUDENT

REPRESENTATIVES

University of Oregon

Joe McAndrew

Portland State

University

Brooke Jordan

STAFF

Executive Director

Patricia A. Zepp

Legislative Liaison

Stephen Kafoury

April 15, 2013

Representative Brian Clem, Chair
 Representative Kevin Cameron, Vice-Chair
 Representative Lew Frederick, Vice-Chair
 House Committee on Land Use
 State Capitol
 Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: House Bill 2106, Siting of Energy Facilities East of the Cascades,
 Hearing 4-16-13**

Dear Representatives Clem, Cameron, and Frederick

The Oregon chapter of the American Planning Association represents nearly one thousand professional and citizen planners in Oregon. The organization supports state policies and legislation that fosters good community planning. OAPA has adopted guiding principles for legislation, including legislation related to the siting and development of energy facilities.

OAPA strongly supports Oregon's 10 Year Energy Action Plan including Landscape Level Planning to resolve siting conflicts on a regional scale. OAPA supports HB 2106 as Introduced, including mapping areas East of the Cascades that are "potentially appropriate" for siting facilities, a habitat mitigation bank, and clarified local and EFSC roles and siting standards.

Eastern Oregon siting conflicts have exploded over the last decade, around iconic Oregon landscapes, from Steens Mt to the Columbia Gorge. Landscape Level Planning is a promising approach to identify significant natural resources, which may be affected by new energy facilities. We understand that Section 1 Amendments to HB 2106 (2-28 and 4-8) now drop the mapping of appropriate areas and focus on a Sage Grouse "mitigation system." While Oregon needs this sage grouse system, OAPA supports broader landscape mapping, that can provide better State and local siting guidance and reduce impacts to farm and forest lands, habitat, scenic resources, and special state and federal management areas. Other states already provide broad landscape level guidance, to minimize and reduce energy siting conflicts

Oregon APA would be happy to serve on a Legislative Work Group, or the Energy Plan's proposed task force, to create an Oregon approach to Landscape Level Planning and mapping.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

Jeannine Rustad
Chair, Legislative and Policy Affairs Committee

Cc: OAPA Board
Rep John Huffman, Sponsor HB2106
Richard Whitman, Natural Resources Policy Director, Governor's Office