

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 7 - 1 - 1

Yeas: Bentz, Boone, Dembrow, Johnson, Reardon, Vega Pederson, Bailey

Nays: Weidner

Exc.: Whitsett

Prepared By: Adam Crawford, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/25, 5/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies definition of “baseload energy” as it relates to Oregon’s greenhouse gas emission performance standard. Deletes provisions requiring Public Utility Commission (PUC) review and modification of greenhouse gas emission standard. Allows electric company, electricity service supplier or customer of electric company or electricity service supplier to petition PUC to study greenhouse gas emissions standard to determine whether standard is still necessary and whether it should be retained, repealed or modified. Requires report to Legislative Assembly following review within 12 months of receiving petition for review.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Present federal and Oregon regulatory structure
- TransAlta operations and plants
- Costs of building a power plant
- Energy purchase agreements

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Oregon’s greenhouse gas emissions standard was enacted in the 2009 Legislative Session with the passage of Senate Bill 101. The measure established a standard of 1,100 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per megawatt hour of electrical generation.

Senate Bill 242 A updates Oregon’s greenhouse gas emissions standard and allows for review to determine whether the standard is still necessary and whether it should be retained, modified, or repealed.