

Dear Senator Beyer and Members of the Committee,

I am saddened every day when I see the advances other states like our neighbors Washington and California have made with the deployment of clean renewable energy as compared to our lack of real progress in Oregon to allow off site energy generation let alone a reasonable Feed in Tariff policy or even Community Solar projects.

I own a beautiful commercial building listed on The National Register of Historical Buildings in Lake County. My Pacific Corp bill this month will be over \$3000 which would justify an investment in solar PV equipment, but I cannot install that equipment economically on my roof.

I own a magnificent piece of property with all (99 %) of the infrastructure necessary for a community solar park next to the largest substation in the community still inside the city limits a few blocks away. Under current regulations neither I, nor my neighbors can install a solar system there and be paid for the energy it generates against our PPL bill. They (the utilities) find it very easy to add seven meters in my name to give me a total every month, but claim they cannot minus one account? And regulations are written to prevent it as well.

And here, we are still only talking about net metering which is a joke that keeps our utilities laughing, at our stupidity, in not passing meaningful FIT legislation like enlightened states and countries have all ready done all around the world.

When we have distributed energy generation that is owned by the public, some of the millions and millions of dollars we give these utilities to run their coal fired plants polluting Utah and Nevada or Fracking natural gas... Stays in our communities. The money I don't pay PPL stays here in Oregon! Circulates here in Oregon. Puts people to work building more green systems here in Oregon.

There are many people in every community that have no access to renewable energy generation because of how their home or business is situated, trees, zoning, or maybe they are renters... They deserve the right to participate in Community Solar projects...

Please, I urge you, support Senate Bill 1520.

"This bill would define a structure by which individual Oregonians voluntarily come together to fund and build natural energy systems in their community, and it would also exempt these community enterprises from onerous and expensive registration requirements with the state investment regulator."

I urge you to support the efforts of Oregonians for Renewable Energy Progress to move us into the 21st century. Study after study has been done showing the benefits of community solar and distributed generation in smart grid management. People, Oregonians... deserve the right to come together to generate their own electric power and be paid a fair price for it.

Power to the People!

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