



IBEW Local 125

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

April 15, 2015

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

On behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 125, I am writing today in opposition of Senate Bill 477. Representing approximately, 3,200 members who work in the electric utility industry throughout the Pacific Northwest, Oregon's Emissions Performance Standard (EPS) have a direct effect on their employment. Currently, Oregon's EPS aligns well with the policies of both California and Washington; all three states have an EPS with similar provisions.

Portland General Electric has collaborated with the Oregon legislature along with a variety of stakeholders to create a solid plan to ensure an appropriate transition off coal. Approximately 200 IBEW Local 125 members will lose their full-time, family-wage jobs. As it stands, this proposed bill would enact a state law that directly inhibits rights established under federal laws—those that allow utilities to install environmental control technology to existing generating facilities.

IBEW Local 125's employer partners continue working to acquire or build more emissions-free generation. These investments provide opportunities for union jobs while meeting their commitment to reducing emissions. SB 477 is excessive regulation by Oregon to control importing electricity from out-of-state coal facilities. Federal regulation is the only way effectively to regulate power plants across state borders, and those rules are expected to be final this summer.

IBEW Local 125 opposes SB 477 and respectfully seeks your support in doing the same. Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcy Grail".

Marcy Grail
Assistant Business Manager
IBEW Local 125