



## Support Oregon’s Small, Non-Utility, Community-Based Renewable Energy Generation

### Support a ‘Community-Based’ Amendment to HB 4036

The Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and the Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) support an increased RPS and the elimination of coal by wire (HB 4036). We also believe that **there is a place in HB 4036 for smaller, community-based Oregon projects.**

**We can make a big difference with a small change** to HB 4036 by requiring community-based renewable energy generation to occur in Oregon. With this change we **invest in our homegrown industry** that offers our best chance to **create jobs and jumpstart rural economic development.**

Background: Oregon’s existing RPS includes a goal that 8% of Oregon’s electric load would come from smaller community based generation (20 mw or less) by 2025. Unfortunately, we have not made much progress toward the 8% goal.

Proposed Amendment: Require, that by 2025, at least 8% of Oregon’s investor owned utilities’ retail electrical load come from small-scale community renewable energy projects interconnected with an Oregon utilities’ transmission or distribution system with a generating capacity of 20 megawatts or less.

#### Why does HB 4036 need a requirement for Small, Community-Based Projects in Oregon?

- The diversity of both renewable resource types and developers is a very important part of a healthy energy portfolio and is the missing component of the deal negotiated in HB 4036.
- Turning the 8% goal of the 2007 RPS legislation into a requirement is a reasonable and prudent expectation for those who value a healthy mix of energy sources and developers, grid security, and the increased economic benefits associated with community-based distributed generation projects.
- Oregonians want renewable energy. They also expect that a portion of that renewable energy be developed in their own communities.

### Join us in supporting the ‘Community-Based’ Amendment to HB 4036!

Community Renewable Energy Association  
 Northwest Sustainable Energy for Economic Development  
 Lake County Resources Initiative  
 Three Sisters Irrigation District  
 Swalley Irrigation District  
 Judge Patrick C. Perry, Wheeler County  
 Judge Mike McCabe, Crook County  
 Judge Steve Shaffer, Gilliam County  
 Commissioner Les Perkins, Hood River County

Association of Oregon Counties  
 Renewable Energy Coalition  
 The Oregon Water Resources Congress  
 Farmers Irrigation District  
 Commissioner Maui Meyer, Hood River County  
 Judge Terry Tallman, Morrow County  
 Judge Chris Perry, Wheeler County  
 Judge Gary Thompson, Sherman County

## ‘Community-Based’ Amendment to HB 4036

**Bolded/red** indicates new language.

469A.210: ~~Goal~~ **Requirement** for community-based renewable energy projects

- (1) The Legislative Assembly finds that community-based renewable energy projects, including but not limited to marine renewable energy resources that are either developed in accordance with the Territorial Sea Plan adopted pursuant to ORS 196.471 (Territorial Sea Plan review requirements) or located on structures adjacent to the coastal shorelands, are an essential element of Oregon’s energy future, and declares that it is ~~the goal~~ **a requirement** of the State of Oregon that by 2025 at least eight percent of Oregon’s **investor owned utilities’** retail electrical load comes from **non-utility** small-scale renewable energy projects **interconnected with an Oregon utilities’ transmission or distribution system** and having a generating capacity of 20 megawatts or less.

Drafting notes: The goal of the amendment is to require 8% by 2025 of investor owned utilities’ retail electrical load be supplied by community renewable energy projects (as defined currently in law) 20 MW or less in generating capacity. For the other remaining utilities (consumer owned utilities), the current language that establishes the 8% as a goal would remain in place.

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	Amanda Dalton, CREA Lobbyist	503-884-0415



### **What does small community-based project mean?**

Community-based renewable energy projects are defined as small-scale renewable energy projects with a generating capacity of 20 megawatts or less. ORS 469A.210.

To date there are projects operating in almost every county of Oregon. These projects return to communities significantly increased benefits including tax payments and jobs through direct investments and allied services and activities.

**Types of Projects:** hydro, solar, waste water, biomass, geothermal, and wind.

### **Examples of Oregon community-based renewable energy generation projects include:**

Rough & Ready Lumber, a biomass project located in Josephine County Operating since 2008	1.2MW
Farm Power Tillamook, a biomass project located in Tillamook County Operating since 2012	1.0MW
Coffin Butte, a landfill gas project located in Benton County Operating since 1995	5.2 MW
City of Gresham, a waste water treatment plant (biomass) in Multnomah County Operating since 2005	0.4 MW
Finley Butte Landfill, a landfill gas project located in Morrow County Operating since 2007	4.8 MW
Stahlbush Island Farms, a biomass operation in Benton County Operating since 2009	1.6 MW
Forest Glen Oaks, a biomass operation in Yamhill County Operating since 2012	0.4 MW
Douglas County Forest Products, a biomass operation in Douglas County Operating since 2012	5.0 MW
JC Biomethane, a biomass project in Lane County Operating since 2013	1.6 MW
OIT Geothermal, a geothermal project in Klamath County Operating since 2010	0.3 MW
OIT Phase 2, a geothermal project in Klamath County Operating since 2014	1.5 MW

Surprise Valley Electric Coop, a geothermal project in Lake County Operating since 2014	3.2 MW
Farmers Irrigation District hydro projects in Hood River County Operating since 2009 and 2010	4.8 MW
Swalley Irrigation District hydro project in Deschutes County Operating since 2010	0.8 MW
Juniper Ridge, a hydro project in Deschutes County Operating since 2010	3.3MW
King Estate Winery, a solar project in Lane County Operating since 2011	1.0 MW
Black Cap Solar, a solar project in Lake County Operating since 2012	2.5 MW
Outback Solar, a solar project in Lake County Operating since 2012	5.0 MW
OIT Solar, a solar project in Klamath County Operating since 2013	2.0 MW
Covanta Marion, a wasteburning plant in Marion County Operating since 1986	13.1 MW
Orem Wind, a wind project in Morrow County Operating since 2014	10 MW
Mariah Wind, a wind project in Morrow County Operating since 2014	10 MW
Lime Wind, a wind project in Baker County Operating since 2010	3 MW
Pa-TU, a wind project in Sherman County Operating since 2010	9 MW

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