



February 8, 2016

Representative Jessica Vega Pederson, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: HB 4036 – Request regarding expected February 8, 2016 amendment

Dear Chair Vega Pederson and Members of the Committee:

Members of the Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association (OMEU) appreciate the opportunity to provide comment again on HB 4036. The concerns OMEU raised in written and verbal testimony on February 1 and 2 respectively have been addressed by the -19 amendment with new language on pages 1-2 Section 6a of the -19 amendment. However, OMEU understands new amendment language to HB 4036 are expected be available at the close of business today for consideration by the House Committee on Energy and Environment.

OMEU wishes to express concerns about this most recent proposed amendment language of February 8, 2016 (the actual legislative amendment language was not available at the time of this writing) generally indicating that:

Nothing in this subsection [subsection 5, page 7 of HB 4036] shall be construed as authorizing the acquisition of service territory of a people's utility district organized under ORS 261 by a municipal electric utility established under ORS 225.

OMEU members are currently investigating the potential effects of the proposed language and will share more as information becomes available. In the meantime, OMEU members respectfully request a statement regarding the legislative intent behind this language, or alternatively an opinion from Legislative Counsel clarifying the impact of the new language.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the phone or email indicated below with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Beth Vargas Duncan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Beth Vargas Duncan
Executive Director

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