

It is no small wonder that Portland General Electric and PacificCorp. helped write and are supporting HB 4036A.

This bill allows these utilities to charge Oregon customers for millions of dollars of additional fees and makes it almost impossible to form new Public Utilities Districts to escape from their monopoly in providing electricity to Oregon residents.

According to the Associated Press article by Matt Volz entitled "Montana power play has implications for Oregon", Representative Vega Pederson who is a primary mover and shaker in moving this bill through stated:

"Oregon's legislation would prohibit the state from using electricity from Colstrip (a coal fired electric generation facility), but the Oregon utilities could sell the power to other customers or on the open market, Vega Pederson said."

Once the electricity enters the distribution lines, it is all the same. The only difference is the amount charged different customers to keep their lights on. Oregon utilities will be charging Oregon customers more than any of their other customers for the electricity we use. Does anyone think this will be anything but devastating to our economy, those on fixed incomes and employers in this state?

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