



April 17, 2019

Representative Ken Helm, Chair
House Committee on Energy and Environment
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Helm and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment:

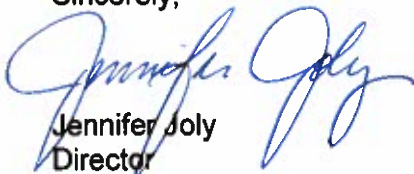
The Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association (OMEU) is made up of eleven members representing municipally owned and operated electric utilities. As consumer-owned utilities (COUs), we are directly accountable to the people we serve through our city councils and local governing boards.

We urge support of SB 107A, which provides an exemption from the offense of illegal stopping, standing or parking when a natural gas utility is responding an emergency investigation or leak repair. Additionally, OMEU urges the Committee to adopt the -A3 amendment which would provide a narrow expansion of the bill for electric utility vehicles responding to emergencies. The exemption in -A3 would apply if there is also an emergency vehicle at the location, or the utility is investigating a downed or arcing line. The -A3 amendment has been negotiated and is acceptable to the bill proponents.

Amendment -A3 is meant to cover emergency situations such as de-energizing power lines during a fire or responding to downed or arcing power lines, not routine non-emergency utility work.

Thank you for your consideration of this sensible legislation and the -A3 amendment.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Joly
Director

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