

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2329

Relating to energy facilities

HB 2329 would expand the thresholds for certain renewable energy projects to be sited under local land use jurisdictions rather than by the Department of Energy's Energy Facility Siting Council, although Department of Energy siting is still permitted.

The Department of Energy, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Historic Preservation Office within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department may still assist counties during the local project review process for a fee for service.

Overall, the fiscal impact to state agencies is indeterminate at this time as the results of the number of developers that will shift energy siting facilities from the state to the local permitting process is unknown.

A revenue reduction to the Department of Energy of roughly \$160,000 Other Funds is anticipated in the 2019-21 biennium. This revenue loss is not significant enough in the short-term to necessitate position or services and supplies reductions, however the program revenue and expenditure actuals should be re-evaluated during the 2021-23 budget development process.

Counites report that the additional costs associated with this legislation are anticipated to be reimbursed by fees charged to energy project developers.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 2329 be amended by the -A5 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.