



Portland General Electric
121 SW Salmon Street · Portland, Ore. 97204

February 4, 2020

Co-Chair Lee Beyer
Co-Chair Caddy McKeown
Joint Transportation Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HB 4150 – Willamette Locks Public Corporation

Dear Co-Chair Beyer, Co-Chair McKeown and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to write in support of HB 4150 with the -1 amendments. PGE is the largest landholder at Willamette Falls, and we have worked with local governments, historic preservation groups, the state, and members of the community to celebrate and preserve the industrial heritage of the site for more than a decade. From the nation's first long distance transmission of electricity by PGE's founders on the east side in 1888 to current operations at the Sullivan Hydroelectric Plant that continues to generate Certified Low Impact clean electricity on the west side of the Falls, the Willamette Falls are an important part of PGE's history and future.

As an ex-officio member of the Willamette Falls Locks Commission, Portland General Electric has been actively engaged and fully supports the community's desire to restore the Locks to operational status and achieve their reopening. The Locks are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are an invaluable part of Oregon's story. Until shutdown by the Army Corps in recent years, the Locks had been a fully functional, continuously operating bridge between the upper and lower portions of the Willamette River. As custodians of several historic resources ourselves, PGE takes pride in powering the future while protecting the past. Additionally, we believe that a navigable Willamette River will provide an impetus to economic, cultural, and historic growth for the region and our state.

We are joining other private and public stakeholders in providing financial support of \$20,000 per year for a three-year period of time to support the transition in setting up the new Willamette Falls Locks Authority and completing the required maintenance in order to bring the locks up to operational status. We look forward to continuing to work with others to support and reopen this important navigational asset.

Please reach out should we be able to answer any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sania Radcliffe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sania Radcliffe
Director of Government Affairs and Environmental Policy