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February 21, 2020

The Honorable Michael Dembrow  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: House Bill 4066A – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Dembrow,

PacifiCorp is an integrated electric utility serving 1.9 million customers in six states across the Pacific Northwest and Rocky Mountain regions. In Oregon, we operate as Pacific Power and serve approximately 615,000 customers.

Pacific Power supports House Bill 4066A for providing the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) regulatory oversight of wildfire mitigation plans and the authority that allows for further statewide adoption of transportation electrification.

House Bill 4066A requires electric utilities to operate in compliance with risk-based wildfire protection plans approved by the OPUC, or for consumer-owned utilities, by their governing board. The plans are intended to minimize the probability that electrical infrastructure may be the origin or contributing source for the ignition of a catastrophic wildfire. The plans do this by requiring inspection, maintenance, and vegetation management programs to protect public safety across the state.

Additionally, House Bill 4066A helps accelerate transportation electrification in multiple ways. The bill provides clear authority for the OPUC to allow regulated electric utilities to proactively plan for and invest in infrastructure to serve electric vehicles as efficiently and cost effectively as possible.

Finally, the bill codifies that revenues collected by utilities as participants in the Clean Fuels Program must be invested in transportation electrification. Investor-owned utilities are already required to use revenues from clean fuels credits generated from electric vehicle charging at residences to advance transportation electrification in their service territory, and the bill brings consumer-owned utilities in line with the same requirement.

We appreciate the work by all those involved with this legislation as it is a significant step forward that will allow Oregon to set a new standard of wildfire mitigation planning and advance statewide transportation electrification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annette Price". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a distinct "P" at the end.

Annette Price