

## Small-Scale & Community-Based Energy Projects Study

Rob Del Mar, Senior Policy Analyst

Senate Interim Committee on Energy and Environment December 8, 2022



## STUDY OF SMALL-SCALE RENEWABLE PROJECTS

HB 2021 directed ODOE to convene a work group-led study on small-scale and community-based renewables.

HB 2021 requires the study to cover:

- Barriers to project development
- Potential economic and resilience benefits
- Access and ownership opportunities
- Potential rate impacts
- Potential legislation to encourage small-scale renewables





## **WORKGROUP MEMBERS BY ORGANIZATION**

- Oregon Legislature (Dembrow and Owens)
- Rogue Climate
- Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association
- Oregon Citizens' Utility Board
- Oregon Clean Power Cooperative
- Energy Trust of Oregon\*
- Small Business Utility Advocates
- PacifiCorp
- Exelon
- Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability –
   Portland Clean Energy Fund
- Portland General Electric
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

- Bonneville Power Administration
- Oregon Public Utility Commission
- Emerald People's Utilities District
- Idaho Power
- Lane County Public Works
- Community Renewable Energy Association
- City of Milwaukie
- Coalition of Communities of Color
- Verde
- BlueGreen Alliance
- Central Electric Coop
- City of Prineville
- City of Ashland Electric Utility
- Crook County
- Navajo Power



## STUDY WORK GROUP SCHEDULE

Workshop #1 – April 28, 2022

Focus: Ownership and Access

Workshop #2 – June 3, 2022

Focus: Opportunities and Barriers

Workshop #3 – June 28, 2022

Focus: Benefits, Costs, and Rate Impacts

Workshop #4 – July 28, 2022

Focus: Project Recap and Possible Recommendations



#### **Guest Speakers:**

- Energy Trust
- PaTu Wind Farm
- CPUC
- PGE
- PAC
- OPUC
- City of Prineville
- Elemental Energy
- BPA
- Obsidian Renewables
- Navajo Power
- Pine Gate Renewables
- Farm Conservation Alliance
- Solarize Rogue
- Oregon Clean Power Cooperative
- Three Sisters Irrigation
- Bonneville Energy Foundation
- Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

## **KEY FINDINGS**

- Opportunity to achieve important goals, such as:
  - o Equity
  - Efficient land use
  - Local energy resilience to extreme weather events
  - Increased local economic performance

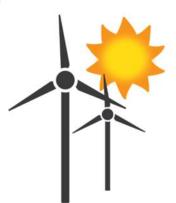
- Opportunities exist in every community, but some communities face more barriers.
- Barriers include:
  - o Financing & insurance
  - Regulatory hurdles
  - Local capacity and knowledge



## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Workgroup identified **guiding principles** to inform the development of potential recommendations to advance small-scale renewables:
  - o Assist Oregon in meeting state goals as defined in HB 2021.
  - o Promote equitable outcomes, including a promotion of the state's environmental justice goals.
  - o Maintain affordable energy / rates for all Oregonians.
  - o Promote an equitable distribution of costs and benefits for all Oregonians.
  - Support project transparency.
  - o Consider the perspectives of other stakeholders that may differ from one's own perspective.
  - o Support economic development in Oregon.
  - Support unique contributions of small-scale projects, including:
    - Local energy resilience
    - Nimbleness due to smaller footprint / scale
    - Community / local ownership
    - Utilization of local available resources, including hydro and bioenergy
    - Waste stream management when waste is used for bioenergy projects









# Questions/Comments?

Contact:
Rob Del Mar
Senior Energy Policy Analyst
robert.delmar@energy.oregon.gov

Christy Splitt
Government Relations Coordinator
<a href="mailto:christy.splitt@energy.oregon.gov">christy.splitt@energy.oregon.gov</a>

https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Data-and-Reports/Pages/SSREP-Study.aspx