



February 3, 2021

Representative Pam Marsh, Chair  
House Committee on Energy and Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2165 – SUPPORT

Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee,

The NW Energy Coalition is pleased to express support for HB 2165.

The NW Energy Coalition advocates for clean, affordable, and equitable energy and has been working to increase access to the benefits of various zero emission transportation options. Electric utilities play an essential role in transportation electrification, both in reliably and affordably serving the needs of a growing customer base, and in strategically planning to ensure transportation electrification results in benefits to all customers.

This bill provides further direction and clarity to ensure utilities are proactively planning for and investing in transportation electrification as Oregon transitions to electricity as a major transportation fuel. This is vital to help ensure utilities meet the needs of current and future customers and maximize the opportunity for downward pressure on rates from new revenue.

The NW Energy Coalition has engaged in utility transportation electrification over the last decade and we recognize that legislation would be beneficial to meaningfully scale utility transportation electrification investments to meet customer's needs, achieve Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals, and reduce harmful criteria pollutants associated with transportation emissions. Specifically, HB 2165 will help achieve this by:

- Creating a minimum investment in transportation electrification infrastructure through 2030 with at least half dedicated to providing benefits to underserved communities.
- Ensuring the Oregon Public Utility Commission has clear authority to approve prudent utility investments.

The NW Energy Coalition appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and we look forward to continuing to work with the legislature and stakeholders as the bill moves forward.

Sincerely,

Annabel Drayton  
Policy Associate, NW Energy Coalition  
[annabel@nwenergy.org](mailto:annabel@nwenergy.org)