



May 13, 2021

Representative Nancy Nathanson, Chair  
Representative Khanh Pham, Vice-Chair  
Representative E. Werner Reschke, Vice-Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Revenue  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Amendment 46 to HB 2021**

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Pham and Reschke and Members of the House Committee on Revenue:

Umatilla Electric Cooperative (UEC) is a member-owned consumer owned utility that sells energy, invests in, and supports other services to improve the quality of life in our communities. UEC serves a large portion of the Columbia Basin and Blue Mountain country of Northeastern Oregon. The cooperative's territory is located west of Boardman in Morrow County and covers much of Umatilla County surrounding the cities of Hermiston and Pendleton and into the Blue Mountains.

UEC appreciates the House Revenue Committee's continued work on the Dash 46 amendment and would like to flag a concern. Applicants for the community-based renewable energy project grants is limited to a "public body" and a "federally recognized Oregon Indian tribe." A cooperative is not a "public body" or a "special government body" under ORS 174 or any other Oregon statute. Cooperatives are private companies and distinct from any public or governmental entity. Therefore, in the Dash 46 amendment, municipalities and people's utility districts, also consumer owned utilities, are eligible to apply for grants, cooperatives are not

Cooperatives serve much of the rural stretches of Oregon who could benefit from community-based renewable energy projects, but as the Dash 46 amendment is currently drafted, only the cooperatives are excluded from this opportunity.

We flag this issue because it is hopefully a drafting oversight that could be addressed through a technical amendment. We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

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