

HB 4059 -3 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 2/7, 2/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Redefines “large-scale project” for purposes of contractor labor standards as a renewable energy generation, sequestration, or storage facility with a capacity rating of two megawatts or greater, except for a community solar facility with a capacity rating of three megawatts or greater. Clarifies good faith exception to required total work hours performed by apprentices. Exempts contracts and subcontracts with tribal government, agent, or instrumentality of Oregon Indian tribe for large-scale project on tribal lands from contractor labor standards. Requires request for proposals by electric company for resource procurement subject to competitive bidding requirements and contractor labor standards to include reference to and information regarding labor standards and to require successful bidder to verify provision of attestation, declaration, or project labor agreement. Requires the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to provide a copy of the attestation or declaration or project labor agreement to the Public Utility Commission (PUC). Requires PUC to adopt rules to implement the competitive bidding requirements and authorizes ODOE to report on attestation or declaration or project labor agreement to the PUC. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-3 Redefines “**covered project**” for purposes of contractor labor standards as a renewable energy generation, sequestration, or storage facility with a capacity rating of two megawatts or greater, except for a community solar facility with a capacity rating **above** three megawatts. **Adds the definition of “community solar project.”** Exempts contracts and subcontracts with tribal government, agent, or instrumentality of Oregon Indian tribe for **covered projects located in whole or in part on the tribe’s reservation or on land held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the tribe, from meeting this Act’s standards unless the tribal government elects to adopt the standards.** Requires request for proposals by electric company for resource procurement subject to competitive bidding requirements adopted by the Public Utility Commission (PUC) by rule **and that may result in the procurement of a covered project** to include reference to and information regarding labor standards and to require successful bidder to verify provision of attestation, declaration, or project labor agreement. Requires the **successful bidder within 30 days from the date construction begins,** provide a copy of the attestation or declaration or executed project labor agreement. Authorizes Oregon Department of Energy to report on attestation or declaration or project labor agreement to the PUC upon request.

BACKGROUND:

In 2021, the Legislature enacted HB 2021 which set targets for certain utilities and electricity suppliers to provide emissions-free electricity by 2040. The bill also outlined responsible contractor labor standards, which require contractors of large-scale renewable energy generation, sequestration, or storage facility projects with a capacity rating of 10 megawatts or greater to meet specific labor standards.

House Bill 4059 would redefine “large-scale project” as a renewable energy generation, sequestration, or storage facility with a capacity rating of two megawatts or greater, except for a community solar facility with a capacity rating of three megawatts or greater. The Bill would clarify application of labor standards for renewable energy generation, sequestration, or storage facilities.