



# Oregon

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To: Senate Interim Committee on Energy and Environment

From: Written Testimony from Deanna Henry,  
Emergency Preparedness Manager, Oregon Department of Energy

Subject: SB 1567 - 2022 Session

Chair Lieber and Members of the Committee,

My name is Deanna Henry. I am the Emergency Preparedness Manager for the Oregon Department of Energy. It is our agency's responsibility to ensure that even in a worst-case disaster, we have strategies in place to support and help provide adequate fuel supplies to support the state's overall response and recovery activities. ODOE developed the Oregon Fuel Action Plan, which addresses all-hazard events that could potentially result in fuel disruptions like pandemics, extreme weather events, wildfires, and major earthquakes like the Cascadia event.

SB1567 directs ODOE to develop an energy security plan to assess the state's ability to recover quickly from natural disasters and manmade threats, including cyber risks, to Oregon's energy systems overall. The energy security plan is an "all of the above" plan, which is to include assessments to Oregon's electricity network, natural gas system, and liquid fuels. Direction and funding to develop the energy security plan comes from the recently passed federal Infrastructure Bill, which would provide money and technical support to state energy offices across the nation to develop energy security plans. Developing the plan would also require close coordination with multiple state agencies, including the Oregon Public Utility Commission. We would also consult with our partners in local governments, tribal governments, and the Environmental Justice Task Force to develop the energy security plan. Finally, the plan will require coordination with our private-sector partners in the petroleum industry, consumer and investor owned utilities, natural gas utilities, and other qualified technical experts in disaster resilience.

As part of the energy security plan, as directed in SB 1567, ODOE would evaluate strategies to increase fuel storage capacity throughout the state to provide a safety net for local communities. The goal is to bridge the gap between a community running out of fuel while allowing the state time to bring outside fuel resources to resupply the area. Studies have shown that a 9.0 Cascadia earthquake and tsunami would devastate our region's energy system, including our petroleum supply and distribution system. Our ongoing planning efforts with federal agencies show the difficulty is not bringing fuel into Oregon after a Cascadia event, the greatest challenge is expected to be moving that fuel to the impacted communities in Western

Oregon with widespread damage to our transportation systems. It could take weeks to get fuel to some communities due to the lack of access. Longer in the more remote areas of the state.

Developing the energy security plan will be a major effort for ODOE and our stakeholders, and we are fortunate to expect receipt of federal funds for the project. SB 1567 would require us to complete the plan by June 2024, which is a reasonable goal. We look forward to reporting back to this committee with the results of Oregon's plan.