



OREGON MILITARY DEPARTMENT
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS, OREGON NATIONAL GUARD
GOVERNMENT AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
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March 30, 2023

Senator Janeen Sollman, Co-Chair
Representative Paul Evans, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Public Safety
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

This letter is in response to a question raised by Senator Sollman, Representative Evans, and Representative Lewis during the March 28, 2023 hearing of the Joint Committee on Ways & Means, Subcommittee on Public Safety.

Rep. Evans Question: What is the level of electricity production that OMD gets from solar panels on installations?

Agency Response: The attached spreadsheet showcases our solar production at 14 different facilities. Data associated with the Grants Pass facility is not available as we have not had a reporting period on that facility yet. Total costs savings associated with solar production is approximately \$258,118.

Rep. Evans Question: What has the reduction of armories over the years done to the efficiency and efficacy of recruitment efforts?

Agency Response: While it is difficult to isolate the impact of armory closures from other social and demographic trends on recruiting efforts, we do consider the balance of facilities between those in more populated urban areas and those in rural towns and cities with an understanding that the National Guard is a community organization. For context, in the past ten years we have closed one armory for unit training in the City of Burns in 2018. The last armory we built was the Nesmith Readiness Center in Dallas in 2011. We have also remodeled facilities in Grants Pass, Milton-Freewater, and Ashland through the Armory Service Life Extension Program (ASLEP) and are currently remodeling the Newport and Coos Bay Armories. We currently have two Military Construction (MILCON) projects on the Future Years Defense Plan (FYDP), one to replace the Hillsboro Armory and the other in Linn County to replace the Albany Armory. Our current top future MILCON priority is to replace the Redmond armory with a new facility adjacent to the Deschutes County Fairgrounds.

For background regarding future sites for armories, we have a formal Real Property Development Plan (RPDP) that creates the Long-Range Construction Plan (LRCP) which is fed by the Future Years Development Plan (FYDP). We update the LRCP every year with TAG direction. The last formal written RPDP was completed in 2017 with a comprehensive review of many aspects that support the size of future armories and where we construct them. Primarily, it determined that "mega-armories" are more efficient and economical in the metropolitan areas

with several recommendations as to which units should combine. Those goals are currently being realized in our LRCP.

Parallel to the RPDP is the Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) which analyzes how we develop ranges and training centers. Our last formal written RPMP was completed in April of 2022. It makes recommendations on many aspects of training to include where units are located as they relate to their training needs, which does not match where large populations are.

Currently we are beginning our review and rewrite the RPDP to update what we anticipate for construction for the next 30-50 years. We have challenged everyone to think about a 100-year plan. Considerations in the rewrite include the following:

1. What is our National Guard State Mission? How do we respond to domestic needs?
2. What is the National Guard Federal Mission? How are units aligned within the Division Structure?
3. What are the demographics of the population base by region and how do they relate to recruiting?
4. Where should units be stationed as it relates to training areas and ranges?
5. What risks are associated with a geographic location?
6. What other government agency partnerships are available?

It is a complex issue we study vigorously as we gather input from all stakeholders to develop our long-range strategies.

Sen. Sollman Question: How much of the ONGSTA funding provided has been spent over the life of the program thus far?

Agency Response: As of February 28, 2023, a total \$3,571,917 has been spent in the 2021-23 biennium. This is 72.6% of the \$4,922,378 appropriation approved for the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, which administers the program. \$3,209,560 of the expenditures (65%) were grant awards. The current balance is \$1,350,461 and all funds have been allotted to be spent by the end of this biennium. Of note, ONGSTA fund use by participants has increased more than 300% over the past four years.

Funds Awarded by Academic Year

2018-2019	\$309,142
2019-2020	\$584,399
2020-2021	\$1,086,949
2021-2022	\$2,026,397
Fall 2022	\$776,996
<u>Winter 2023</u>	<u>\$481,264*</u> (total not yet available, awaiting additional school submissions)
Total	\$5,265,147

Rep. Lewis Question: Assuming deployment frequency likely negatively impacts recruitment efforts, how does OMD plan to counter that in recruitment and retention? And is there anything the legislature can do to better prepare families for deployments?

Agency Response: Deployment frequency does have an impact on recruiting and even more on retention. The impact can be mixed. Many service members derive great pride and personal satisfaction from, and look forward to, mobilizations including domestic response such as wildland firefighting. However, the impact of multiple recent mobilizations, many of them short-notice and sporadic has generally had a net negative impact on retention.

Through Service Member interviews and surveys, we have identified that deployment type, timing, lead-time, and frequency greatly influence the impact on recruiting and retention. Most federal mobilizations, while typically longer in duration, also have longer lead times. Service members have time to prepare themselves and their families. We utilize our considerable Service Member and Family Support services to minimize impact and improve Service Member and family resiliency. Shorter notice mobilizations, have a greater negative impact on retention.

As we have gone through multiple iterations of both types in recent years, our agency has worked diligently to minimize impacts of short-notice mobilizations such as wildland fire response and even less predictable events such as the pandemic response. We have developed processes to improve predictability by identifying service members early who will be called when and if needed and ensuring they know they are on the list. This also helps us make employers aware of the service members commitment in case of an emergency.

As mentioned above, we provide significant assistance to Service Members and their families to improve readiness and resiliency in case of mobilization. The Service Member and Family Support team operates the “Yellow Ribbon” program that includes multiple pre and post deployment workshops and assistance for both the Service Members and their families. Continued support from the legislature for our agency budget will ensure our facilities and support services are ready and available for our Service Members and their families.

Rep. Evans Question: What is the state staffing capacity at Camp Rilea?

Agency Response: Total number of employees at Camp Rilea is currently 40 personnel. This is an increase of 5 personnel since 2017. The total number of employees at Rees Training Center (Formerly Camp Umatilla) is 26. This is an increase of 6 personnel since 2017. In the 23-25 biennium we are projecting to add 13 personnel at Camp Rilea for a total of 53, and one more at Rees Training Center for a total of 27.

Rep. Evans Question: How many states use Average Daily Membership for their version of Oregon Youth Challenge Program (OYCP)?

Agency Response: Per National Guard Bureau (NGB), multiple programs across the nation utilize average daily membership (ADM) revenue as part of their program operations, but with the exception of the Oregon Youth Challenge Program, none of the programs used ADM as the source of certified state match. Oregon is the last state to convert to this method. NGB indicated that approximately 34 of the remaining 39 Youth Challenge programs use General Fund as the source of their certified state match, and that up to five (5) programs use some other form of dedicated state funding as their certified state match. The direct allocation of funding from the State School Fund will put Oregon more in alignment with the 39 other similar programs across the nation.

Response to Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Public Safety

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Point of contact is the undersigned at russell.w.gibson.civ@army.mil or 971-355-3605. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions you may have.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell W. Gibson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Russell W. Gibson
Government & Legislative Affairs Director
Oregon Military Department

Oregon Military Department
 Solar Usage Report March 2021 - February 2023

Site	kWh* (3/21 - 2/22)	kWh* (3/22 - 2/23)	kWh* Total
BEND_YCP_COTEF (24.42 kW)_100F 23861 Dodds Rd	37,412	36,022	73,434
Camp Withycombe (250 kW PV) 78% F,15300 SE Minuteman Way Clackamas	293,995	282,185	576,180
CHRISTMAS VALLEY (160 kW PV) 1038161 _100F	213,251	89,697	302,948
Dallas, COL James Nesmith Readiness Center (220kW PV)1020360_50F	221,415	282,739	504154
Gresham Armory (4.5 kW PV)500 NE Division _53%F	4,503	4,481	8,984
Maison-Sharff_60%F_8801 N Chautauqua 4.7kW PV	0	0	0
Medford Armory _50F (40 kW*PV) 1701 S Pacific Hwy	217,252	110,056	327,308
Ontario John W Brown Armory (104 kW PV) 991605_50F	137,058	91,813	228,871
Pendleton AASF (150 kW PV) _100F_2101 N.W. 56th Dr	211,277	184,248	395,525
Roseburg Armory_50%F_(90 kW PV) 111 NW General Ave_	101,135	71,518	172,653
Salem AASF _100F (168 kW PV)1923 Turner Rd SE	187786	5,625	193,411
Salem Major General George White 230 Geer Dr SE, Salem (120kW PV)(New JFHQ)_58%F	151,904	135,038	286,942
St Helens Armory _51%F_(4.5 kW PV)474 S 7th Street	6,996	5,782	12,779
The Dalles Readiness Center (48 kW PV)_32%F_402 East Scenic Drive	71,594	71,702	143,296
	1,855,578	1,370,906	3,226,485

* kWh (thousand Watt-hours)