Sponsored by Representative MARSH

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Requires Public Utility Commission, in consultation with State Department of Energy, to study development and adoption of microgrid systems and use of microgrid systems for increasing electric grid and energy resilience. Directs commission to submit findings to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to energy and development no later than September 15, 2024.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to energy resilience.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The Public Utility Commission, in consultation with the State Department of Energy, shall conduct a study related to the development and adoption of microgrid systems and the use of microgrid systems for increasing electric grid and energy resilience. The study must include, but is not limited to, an examination of the following:

(a) Financing mechanisms, funding options and financial incentives to encourage, facilitate or fund the development and adoption of microgrid systems;

(b) Provision of technical assistance to counties, cities and districts for energy resilience planning and incorporating energy resilience planning into any hazard mitigation plan;

(c) Opportunities for enhanced coordination between utilities and local governments, special districts and federally recognized Indian tribes to apply for state and federal funding programs to implement energy resilience strategies and projects for community and grid benefits;

(d) Removal of barriers to the development of microgrid systems, including the standardization and streamlining of processes for interconnection and permitting rights of way for microgrids; and

(e) Methodologies for valuing the grid system reliability and resilience services provided by microgrids and social, economic and environmental justice benefits that accrue when communities are made more resilient by microgrids.

(2) The commission shall submit a report in the manner provided by ORS 192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to energy and development no later than September 15, 2024.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2023 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.