



# Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative  
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February 7, 2022

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative  
Testimony, HB 2635

House Committee on Economic Development and Small Business

Chair Bynum, Vice-Chairs Morgan and Nguyen,

My name is Tucker Billman, and I am the Manager of Government Affairs for Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative (OTEC). OTEC is a member-owned and governed electric cooperative that serves nearly 60,000 residents in Baker, Grant, Harney and Union counties in Eastern Oregon.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 2635. OTEC's mission statement reads as follows: "To safely provide reliable electric and related services that support the economy and the quality of life of OTEC Members based on the cooperative principles." There are seven cooperative principles, but two in particular stand out when considering HB 2635 that ultimately explain OTEC's support for HB 2635 – Concern for Community and Members Economic Participation.

After conversations with County Commissioners in Union County, it is clear that the Union County Fairgrounds and surrounding communities will benefit from upgrading the water and wastewater infrastructure beyond just the week of fair. This upgrade will increase the overall usefulness of the fairgrounds year-round, increasing economic and communal opportunities to OTEC's member-owners. It is OTEC's belief that the funding in HB 2635 has the potential to increase the quality of life for our member-owners living in Union County.

OTEC encourages your support of HB 2635. Do not hesitate to contact me at [tbillman@otec.coop](mailto:tbillman@otec.coop) or 541-519-3553 with any questions about OTEC's support for this bill.

Sincerely,

Tucker Billman  
Manager of Government Affairs  
Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative



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