



House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

March 21, 2023

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Levy, and members of the committee,

The Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association (OSSIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar and storage technologies. OSSIA members include businesses, non-profit groups, and other solar and storage industry stakeholders. We provide a unified voice of the solar industry and focus exclusively on the solar value chain; from workforce development to permitting, advocacy, policy, and regulation for manufacturing, residential, commercial, community, and utility scale solar and storage projects on the local, state and regional level.

OSSIA supports passage of HB 2990, to support the creation and implementation of Resilience Hubs and Resilience Networks across Oregon. In particular, OSSIA supports the coordination with the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE); energy resilience is critical and deserves special consideration. During an emergency, it is important to keep power on in order to enable communications, refrigeration, heating and cooling, and other necessary functions. Since it may be difficult to secure diesel fuel for generators during emergencies, more and more emergency facilities are moving to solar and storage microgrids to ensure that the power stays on during outages. Solar + storage microgrids are an excellent option for communities facing outages.

The last several years have seen increased wildfires and powerful storms, which have resulted in more frequent wide-spread power outages. Resilience Hubs and Resilience Networks are a key way to ensure that communities are able to receive vital services during emergencies. OSSIA looks forward to supporting ODOE, community organizations, tribes and other agencies in developing energy resilience in the Resilience Hubs and Resilience Networks.

Sincerely,

Angela Crowley-Koch
Executive Director