



EO25-29 FAQ

What is this Order in response to?

Oregon faces mounting climate risks: from extreme weather and wildfires to water scarcity and rising energy costs, threatening our state's public health, safety, and economic stability. In coordination with the Oregon Department of Energy's (ODOE) State Energy Strategy, this order establishes a coordinated, statewide approach to support clean energy deployment and long-term infrastructure development to power economic growth and ensure that Oregon's rising energy needs are met with affordable, reliable, and abundant clean energy in the decades to come.

What does the Order specifically direct state agencies to do?

Executive branch agencies are directed to adopt and implement greenhouse gas reduction strategies and align their decisions, activities, and investments as appropriate to advance the five least-cost pathways identified in the Oregon Energy Strategy, accelerating our state's resilient clean energy future. The Governor's Office will take a leadership role in advancing the efforts associated with this order. It is the responsibility of each respective agency director to ensure appropriate coordination and implementation contemplated by this order is integrated into agency programs and initiatives.

Additionally, the order lists a set of specific directives to agencies, including:

- I. **The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)** and the **Public Utility Commission (PUC)** shall work together to ensure that revenues collected by utilities through the Clean Fuels Program (CFP) are strategically invested to advance equitable transportation electrification.
- II. **DEQ** and the **Environmental Quality Commission (EQC)** shall evaluate the status and projected growth of the clean fuels market and update Oregon Clean Fuels Program rules to strengthen the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS).
- III. **The PUC** shall exercise their existing authority to evaluate and value the grid resiliency benefits in electric utility resource planning processes.
- IV. **ODOE** shall inventory, assess, and analyze barriers preventing the construction and interconnection of permitted clean energy projects and associated infrastructure.
- V. **ODOE**, in coordination with the **PUC** and the **Governor's Natural Resources Team**, shall undertake a process to evaluate and propose a framework for consideration by the Oregon State Legislature in 2027 to strategically accelerate transmission corridors, streamline approvals, and target public-benefit funding.

VI. The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) shall evaluate opportunities and barriers to clean energy development under Oregon’s land use planning goals.

How can the public engage in the implementation of this order?

Natural resource state agencies are expected to work in partnership with sovereign tribal nations, landowners, communities, nongovernmental organizations, businesses, and local and regional governments to support the transition to a resilient, clean energy future. The biennial plans outlined in the order's Accountability section must be presented at respective board or commission meetings, where they will be discussed, reviewed, and subject to public testimony and comment.

How are agencies expected to prioritize this work?

The Executive Order aims to build from existing agency processes and expertise to achieve objectives within current agency service levels. The Order establishes timelines and deadlines for agencies to produce priority deliverables and report progress on implementing the Order’s directives.

By September 2026, agencies must assess barriers to clean energy deployment and identify strategies to streamline and accelerate clean energy siting and deployment. Agencies must provide quarterly updates on progress in advancing public-private partnerships. The Order’s general directives to prioritize implementation of the Oregon Energy Strategy’s pathways apply on an on-going basis, and implementation activities will be tracked and reported through existing agency work plans.

Will this order cost additional resources – outside of agency budgets – to implement?

In a time of limited budgets and fiscal constraints at all levels of government, Executive Order 25-29 sets expectations for key state agencies, like ODOE and the PUC, to prioritize their work in line with the findings of the Oregon Energy Strategy Pathways, keeping the work of the state’s Natural Resources Cabinet focused on achieving a clean energy future for our state. For the remainder of the 2025-2027 biennium, the Order expects agencies to do what they can with existing resources by prioritizing and aligning activities and decision-making to advance the Order’s directives. Agencies are expected to identify funding challenges and needs as they develop their biennial work plans in line with the Governor’s Recommended Budget (GRB) process for 2027-2029 and future biennial state budget cycles.

What is energy efficiency defined as in the context of this Executive Order?

Energy efficiency refers to technology improvements that reduce the amount of energy needed to power appliances and equipment. Energy efficiency is closely related to energy conservation, which is achieved through operational or behavioral changes that reduce energy consumption. For example, turning off a light bulb when leaving a room would conserve energy, while replacing an incandescent bulb with an energy efficient LED bulb would reduce the amount of energy needed to produce the same amount of light. Both energy efficiency and energy

conservation are key strategies to reduce overall energy demand that could otherwise require investment in costly new resources.

How is resilience defined as in the context of this Executive Order?

Energy or grid resilience is distinct from the ecological or climate resilience strategies described in Part II. Energy or grid resilience refers to infrastructure, technologies, or operational practices that enable the electricity system to withstand or quickly recover from disruptive events like wildfires, ice storms, or earthquakes.

Is there a role for state lands in implementing this Executive Order?

Oregon's state lands have a unique role to play in supporting clean energy while providing opportunities for environmental mitigation and wildlife passage and generating revenue for Oregon's schools and communities, through the Common School Fund.

How does the Executive Order impact energy affordability?

The Order maintains energy affordability by directing agencies to prioritize investments that deliver the greatest value to energy users. Agencies must focus on cost-effective energy efficiency and strategic building and transportation electrification—measures that save more money over time than they cost while delivering energy savings and other benefits. The Order accelerates deployment of least-cost, least-risk clean energy resources that provide the best value for ratepayers. It directs the PUC to develop criteria for estimating the economic value of utility investments that increase grid resiliency without shifting costs from high-income households to customers facing higher energy burdens.

Will strengthening the Clean Fuels Program maintain affordability for Oregonians?

Yes. The Clean Fuels Program is designed to encourage diverse, competitive low-carbon fuel options that can help stabilize costs over time. By expanding choices like renewable diesel, biofuels, and electricity for transportation, Oregonians gain access to alternatives that can reduce dependence on volatile fossil fuel markets. Electric vehicle drivers, in particular, often see significant savings on fueling costs. The program includes monitoring mechanisms to track economic impacts and ensure it remains balanced, supporting both our climate goals and the financial well-being of Oregon families.

How will this Executive Order support Oregon's economic growth?

Oregon's economic growth depends on affordable, reliable energy. Currently, grid constraints limit development in some communities. To meet rising demand, we need new transmission infrastructure and upgraded technology—creating jobs and enabling growth.

This Order aims to accelerate energy development by streamlining siting and permitting processes. It directs agencies to prioritize public-private partnerships for clean energy projects and develop frameworks supporting emerging technologies like enhanced geothermal and advanced battery storage. These efforts will expand grid capacity, attract new businesses, and create economic opportunities across Oregon's energy sector.

Why set an energy storage goal?

Energy storage offers critical benefits for grid reliability, clean energy integration, and cost savings. Energy storage systems provide backup power during outages or peak demand periods and balance fluctuations from intermittent renewable energy resources like solar and wind power. These services help reduce the need for additional electricity generating resources, providing long-term cost savings for ratepayers.

The goal to deploy 8 gigawatts of energy storage by 2045 is both ambitious and achievable. To date, there is nearly 500 MW of energy storage operating in Oregon, and more than 7 gigawatts of battery storage is currently planned for development. Deploying 8 gigawatts of energy storage across the state will provide significant reliability and resiliency benefits and enable grid operators to integrate new clean energy resources onto the grid.

What about existing transportation electrification policies and laws?

All agency actions must align with the state's goals to reduce transportation emissions and expand electric and zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs), including electric bikes and transit, and their charging infrastructure.

Annual reporting: By December 31 each year, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) will report to the Governor's Office on the state's legally required ZEV purchases from the past year. This report must explain why any non-ZEV light-duty vehicles were purchased or leased instead.

How will Clean Fuels Program revenue be used?

The DEQ and the PUC shall take the following steps to ensure that revenues collected through the Clean Fuels Program (CFP) will be strategically invested to advance equitable transportation electrification:

- **DEQ and the EQC** shall undertake a rulemaking to evaluate and adopt CFP rule amendments aimed at advancing transportation electrification in a cost-effective and equitable manner. This rulemaking should be conducted in tandem with the Low Carbon Fuel Standard update rulemaking described in Section I.1.d of the Executive Order.
- **The PUC** shall ensure that utility CFP revenues are invested in high-priority transportation electrification projects identified through utility transportation electrification plans. Projects located in under-served or unserved communities or facilities, including multifamily housing and areas that are not served by commercial EV chargers, should be prioritized for investment consistent with the overarching program electrification objectives.

Does the Order create a Transmission Authority for the state?

No, the Order does not create a new Transmission Authority or assign those functions to ODOE. Section 2.e directs ODOE to work with the Public Utility Commission and Governor's Office to

evaluate policies for accelerating transmission siting and development. ODOE will propose a framework for identifying strategic transmission corridors and streamlining permitting within those corridors or existing rights-of-way, while also evaluating opportunities for public-interest financial support for transmission infrastructure that's in the public interest.

The full text of the order can be found [here](#).