

Oregon Department of Energy

Agency Overview
House Climate, Energy, and Environment
January 21, 2025

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YEARS *of* SERVICE

**OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY**

2025 marks ODOE's 50th year serving Oregon!

In 1975, the Oregon Legislature created the Oregon Department of Energy following the oil crisis of the early 1970s.

The statute creating the agency noted that continued growth and demand for non-renewable energy poses a serious and immediate – and future – problem. It also declared a goal that ODOE promote the efficient use of energy resources and develop permanent energy resources – a goal that continues today as ODOE works to develop a new state energy strategy and Oregon prepares for new electricity needs and load growth.

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/About-Us/Pages/50-years.aspx>





OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Leading Oregon to a safe, equitable, clean, and sustainable future.

Our Mission

The Oregon Department of Energy helps Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. We advance solutions to shape an equitable clean energy transition, protect the environment and public health, and responsibly balance energy needs and impacts for current and future generations.

What We Do

On behalf of Oregonians across the state, the Oregon Department of Energy achieves its mission by providing:

- A Central Repository of Energy Data, Information, and Analysis
- A Venue for Problem-Solving Oregon's Energy Challenges
- Energy Education and Technical Assistance
- Regulation and Oversight
- Energy Programs and Activities

Our Work with the Legislature

“A Think Tank for the Legislature” on Energy Issues

- Informational hearings
- Ask us questions; we’re available for issue briefings
- Studies and reports as assigned
- Expertise in clean and resilient energy solutions

Doing our Part to Get Implementation Right

- Develop and implement energy programs
- Information and analysis on bills that name ODOE

Reports on Recent Legislative Sessions

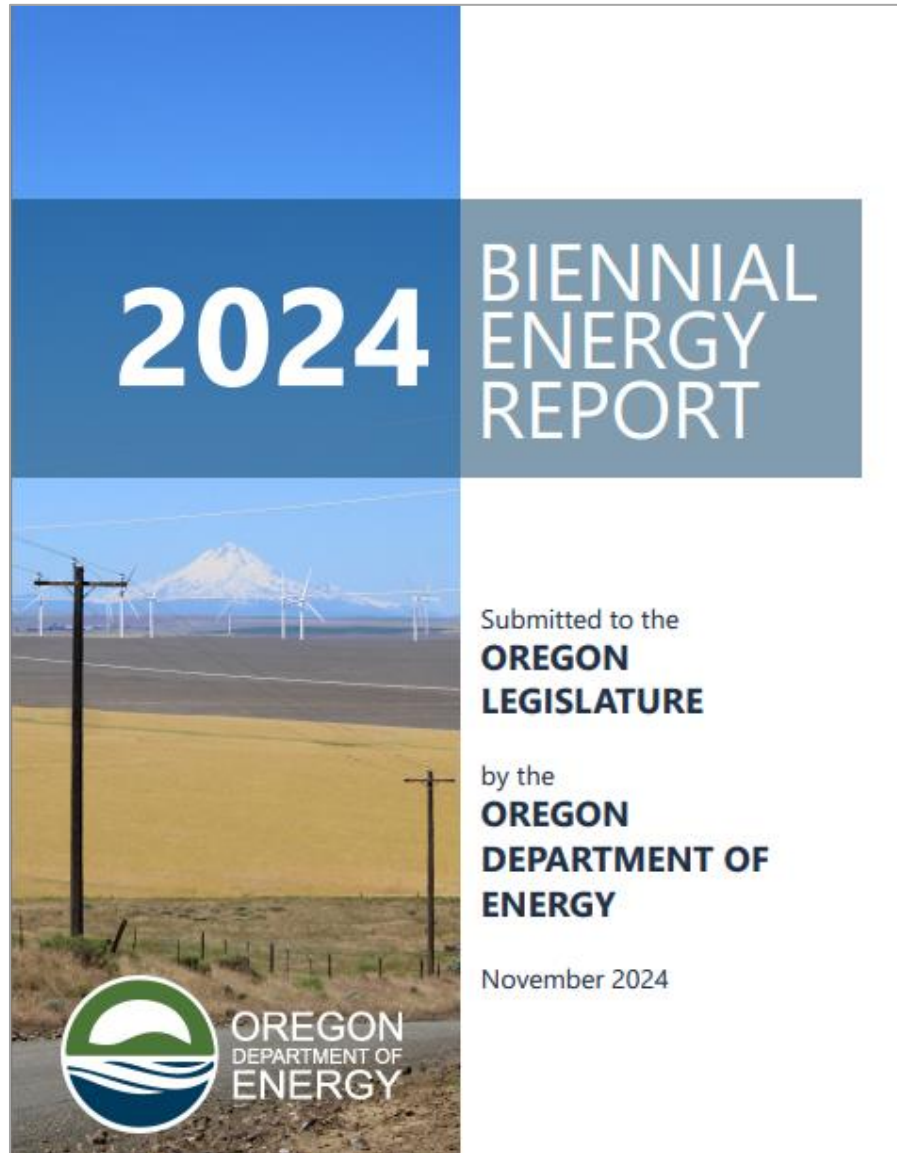
- Includes concise overview of energy themes during each session
- Provides short, easy to read summaries of energy bills that passed and bills that did not pass
- Example: [2023](#) and [2024](#) ODOE Legislative Reports



Studies and Reports Library

- Recent Reports:
 - 2024 Biennial Energy Report (and 2022, 2020, 2018)
 - 2023 Biennial Zero Emission Vehicle Report
 - 2023 Cooling Needs Study
 - 2022 Renewable Hydrogen Study
 - 2022 Floating Offshore Wind Study
 - 2022 Small-Scale and Community Renewable Energy Projects Study
 - 2021 Regional Transmission Organization Study
- Inform local, state, regional, and federal energy policy development and energy planning and investments.
- Collect and analyze energy data and information.
- Review energy resources, policies, trends, and forecasts – and what they mean for Oregon.
- Outline recommendations.





<https://energyinfo.oregon.gov/ber>

Energy by the Numbers

Energy Resource & Technology Reviews

- [Enhanced Geothermal Electricity Generation](#)
- [Fusion Power](#)

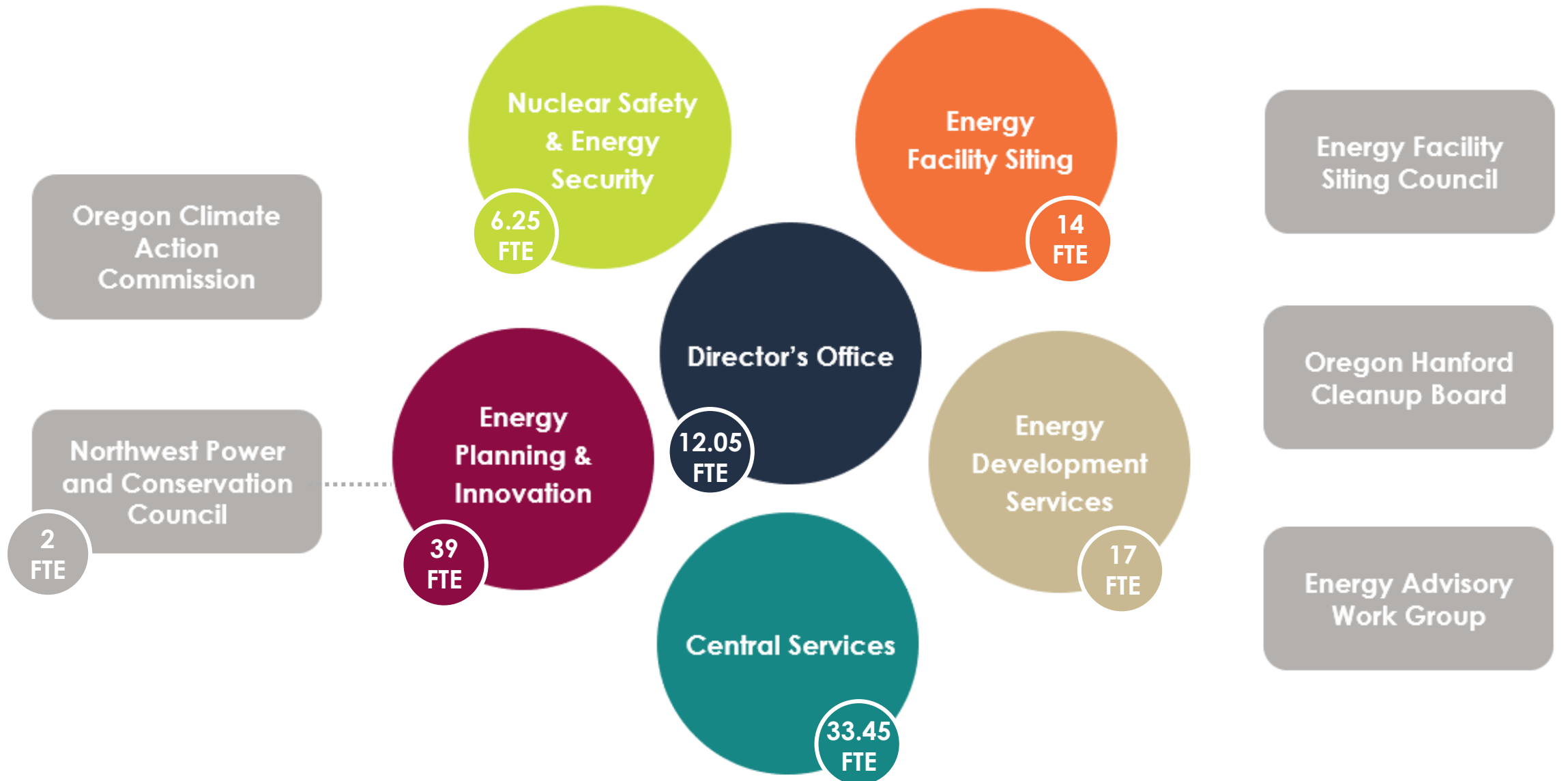
Energy 101s

- [Advancements in a Clean Hydrogen Economy](#)
- [Agrivoltaics in Oregon](#)
- [Climate Change Effects on the Energy System](#)
- [Electricity Rate Increase Drivers](#)
- [Peak Electricity Demand](#)
- [Electricity Day-Ahead Markets](#)
- [Energy Resilience](#)
- [Water and Energy Nexus](#)
- [Alternatives to New Transmission](#)
- [Oregon Home Energy Scoring](#)
- [Waste Energy](#)

Updates on State Energy Projects

- [Oregon Energy Security Plan](#)
- [Oregon Energy Strategy](#)

AGENCY PROGRAM DIVISIONS AND STANDING COUNCILS/GROUPS





State-Funded Programs
Federal Programs



Community Renewable Energy Grant Program

Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program

Energy Efficient Wildfire Rebuilding Incentive

Community Heat Pump Deployment Program

Oregon Rental Homes Heat Pump Program

Small-Scale Energy Loan Program



State-Funded Programs
Federal Programs



Community Renewable Energy Grant Program:

- Tribes, consumer-owned utilities, and public bodies are eligible for up to \$100,000 in planning grants and up to \$1 million in construction grants
- ODOE has awarded 50 planning projects totaling \$4,387,990 in grants and 44 construction projects totaling \$37,454,977 in grants. Projects have been awarded in 28 of Oregon's 36 counties.
- Governor's Recommended Budget includes an additional \$25 million for the 2025-2027 biennium

Community Renewable Energy Grant Program | Completed Projects

City of Ontario's Verde Light Project (pictured)

- Successfully completed in 2024
- City received \$900,000 in grant funds
- Annual savings for City & subscribers
- Idaho Power receives increased grid stability

City of The Dalles Gloria Center Project

- Successfully completed in 2024
- City received \$758,051 in grant funds
- Provides renewable and resilient power to community shelter and services building
- Provides 2 electric vehicle charging stations

26 Planning projects successfully completed





State-Funded Programs

Federal Programs



Grid Resilience Grant Program

- Provides grants to Oregon electric utilities to support projects that strengthen the resilience of the electric grid

Home Energy Rebates

- \$113 million will support two new home energy rebate programs for high-efficiency home improvements, appliances, and equipment

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

- \$197 million will support 12 critical measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including energy efficiency in homes and businesses

Solar for All

- \$86.6 million will support solar projects for low-income Oregonians and other disadvantaged communities



Energy Efficiency & Conservation



Technology & Policy

Energy Codes & Standards

Climate Action

- Help state agencies, schools, tribes, businesses, nonprofits, industries, and farmers **improve energy efficiency.**
- Guide implementation of statewide **Home Energy Scoring** and provide expertise to Oregon cities and counties in adopting mandatory scoring.
- Facilitate Public Purpose Charge funding for schools, including for **electric school buses.**
- Manage the **Rural & Agricultural Energy Assistance Program** for farms and rural small businesses to improve energy efficiency.
- Manage the **Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant** program, providing grants to eligible local governments for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and transportation projects.



Energy Efficiency & Conservation

Technology & Policy



Energy Codes & Standards

Climate Action

- Maintain **expertise on energy resources, policies, and markets** to inform Oregon energy policy development.
- Participate in **technical forums and committees** to represent Oregon's interests.
- **Provide research and analysis** on alternative fuels and reducing fuel consumption.
- Develop **energy studies and reports** that serves as a resource for decision-makers, policy discussions, and the general public – including development of an Oregon Energy Strategy.
- Serve as the state's clearing house for **energy-related data and information**, including reports on emerging energy topics, and maintain data dashboards.
- Review and certify generating facilities for the **Renewable Portfolio Standard**.



Energy Efficiency & Conservation
Technology & Policy
Energy Codes & Standards →
Climate Action

- Provide technical expertise to improve residential and commercial **building codes**.
- Conduct research and rulemaking to develop **strong energy efficiency/appliance standards**.
- Develop new **Oregon Building Performance Standards program**, including future incentives for early adopters.

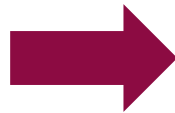


Energy Efficiency & Conservation

Technology & Policy

Energy Codes & Standards

Climate Action



- Staff and provide climate change policy expertise and administrative support to the **Oregon Climate Action Commission**, and track Oregon's progress toward meeting our GHG emission reduction goals.
- Analyze, plan, and implement climate action programs that **reduce GHG emissions** to mitigate the effects of climate change.
- Provide technical expertise and work with other state agencies to develop comprehensive Natural & Working Land program employing **Natural Climate Solutions**.
- Provide **technical expertise, policy analysis, and funding** to support more resilient energy systems in Oregon.

Oregon Energy Strategy

- ODOE is developing an Oregon Energy Strategy, which will identify pathways to achieve the state's energy objectives.
- The Strategy will evaluate benefits and challenges of different pathways, present policy recommendations, and reflect input from Oregonians who informed the Strategy.
- ODOE is following a process that combines data gathering, technical analysis, and policy discussions anchored in engagement with Oregonians with diverse backgrounds and perspectives from across the state.
- Following public comment on the draft report, the Oregon Energy Strategy will be presented to the Governor and Legislature by November 2025.





Hanford Cleanup Policy

Nuclear Safety and Radioactive Waste

Energy Security and Emergency Fuel
Supply Planning

County Resilience Planning Grants

- Represent Oregon's interests in the **Hanford cleanup** and support decisions that are protective of the Columbia River and Oregon.
- **Review and comment** on proposed actions and cleanup plans at the country's largest contaminated site.
- **Interact with regulators** and counterparts at Washington State and US DOE.
- Facilitate **Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board** meetings.



Hanford Cleanup Policy

Nuclear Safety and Radioactive Waste

Energy Security and Emergency Fuel
Supply Planning

County Resilience Planning Grants



- Lead **emergency preparedness** for nuclear safety and radioactive material transport.
- Conduct **frequent exercises** to test and improve emergency preparedness plans; support **training** for state and local governments and first responders.
- Implement state rules and regulations regarding analysis and disposal of **radioactive waste**.
- **Liaison with federal counterparts** at Nuclear Regulatory Commission, US DOE, and FEMA on emergency preparedness.
- Provide technical support and monitoring of **two former uranium mines** and a uranium mill disposal site in Lake County.



Hanford Cleanup Policy

Nuclear Safety and Radioactive Waste

**Energy Security and Emergency Fuel
Supply Planning**



County Resilience Planning Grants

- **Led development** of Oregon’s Energy Security Plan: delivered Sept 30, 2024.
- The Plan includes a baseline of Oregon’s energy systems, risks and threats to those systems, and mitigation options to **reduce threats**.
- Manage **Oregon Fuel Action Plan**, which details how ODOE supports emergency services during a fuel shortage.
- Developed an interactive **online version** of the plan to increase visibility and accessibility.
- **Activate plan** as necessary, such as during wildfires, COVID-19 pandemic, flooding and landslides, and winter storms.
- **Stakeholder outreach and engagement** to support local government and other agencies prepare their own fuel plans.



Hanford Cleanup Policy

Nuclear Safety and Radioactive Waste

Energy Security and Emergency Fuel
Supply Planning

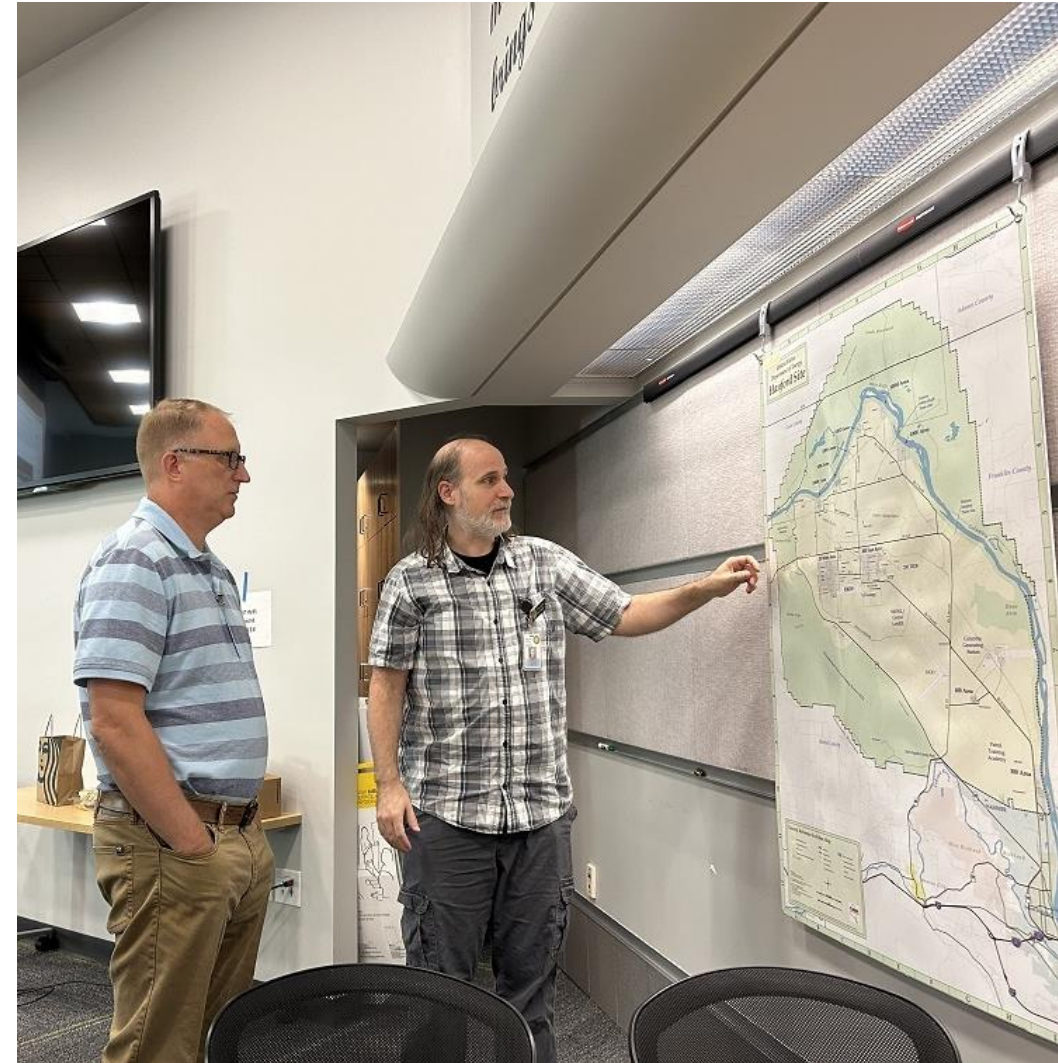
County Resilience Planning Grants



- In 2023, the Legislature passed HB 3630, directing ODOE to create a **grant program to support Oregon counties** with energy resilience planning.
- The program provides up to \$50,000 per county to develop an **energy resilience plan**.
- Each of Oregon's **36 counties are eligible to receive funds**, and counties may work together to pool funds in a cohort.
- As of February 2025, ODOE has received **program applications** from 3 counties.

Nuclear Emergency Planning

- ODOE is the state's lead coordination agency for nuclear emergency planning and response
- Focus on fixed nuclear facilities, including the Columbia Generating Station Nuclear Power Plant (near Richland, WA) and the Hanford Nuclear Site
- CGS emergency program overseen by FEMA and NRC; highly regulated environment, including biannual FEMA-evaluated exercises
- In 2024, our program was evaluated by FEMA during a regional exercise; we received good results and recertification of the program.





Energy Facility Review



Rulemaking

Compliance

Staff to Energy Facility
Siting Council

- **Coordinate review** of proposed and amended energy facilities with appropriate state agencies, local jurisdictions, Tribes, and public and federal agencies.
- Division is seeing **an increase** in the number of new applications and amendments and more complex projects.
- Number of **amendments** per facility can vary.
- Track **federal energy projects** and negotiate cost recovery agreements, establish memoranda of understanding, and coordinate the state's response in the National Environmental Policy Act process.



Energy Facility Review
Rulemaking
Compliance
Staff to Energy Facility
Siting Council



- **Rulemaking activities** are prioritized and approved by the Energy Facility Siting Council.
- Staff **evaluate administrative rules** to ensure they function effectively and efficiently and reflect changes in energy markets and demands.
- Usually involve establishing broadly representative **rulemaking advisory committees** to help division staff draft proposed rules.
- **Recent rulemakings** include reviewing rules governing Site Certificate amendments, potential amendments to reporting rules for nuclear research reactors, reviewing the carbon monetary offset rule, and others.



Energy Facility Review
Rulemaking
Compliance →
Staff to Energy Facility
Siting Council

- **Monitor facilities** throughout their lifecycle to ensure site certificate conditions are met.
- **Oversight** activities include:
 - Reviewing annual reports
 - Conducting site inspections
 - Reviewing wildlife – wildfire – invasive species mitigation reports
 - Ensuring bonds and letters of credit for decommissioning are adjusted annually for inflation
- ODOE hired a second compliance officer to **bolster compliance activities** as the number of facilities in process and operating increase.



Energy Facility Review
Rulemaking
Compliance
Staff to Energy Facility
Siting Council



- **Staff** the Governor-appointed, Senate confirmed Energy Facility Siting Council.
- Council meets approximately **10-12 times per year** in communities located near proposed facilities (offering a hybrid option for those who cannot travel).
- Council meetings include **public engagement and comment opportunities**.

Energy Facilities

In 2024, Siting Division Staff:

- Supported EFSC review and approval of applications for site certificates and requests for site certificate amendments for one transmission line; two solar PV energy facilities; and two wind energy facilities.
- Conducted 12 Energy Facility Siting Council meetings
- Held 3 Public Information Meetings
- Completed 16 onsite and 11 virtual facility compliance inspections
- Evaluated 17 reported facility incidents
- Completed 4 rulemaking projects and continued progress on 4 others
- Assisted Oregon DEQ in completing a siting-related rulemaking under its authority





Director's Office
Central Services



- Includes an **internal audit function**, which has been identified as a priority in most agencies.
- Communications and outreach work is central to the agency's role **energy education and technical assistance** and helping Oregonians make informed decisions.
- A Strategic Engagement Team ensures we are **engaged with our stakeholders**, citizens, and elected officials at all levels.



Director's Office
Central Services

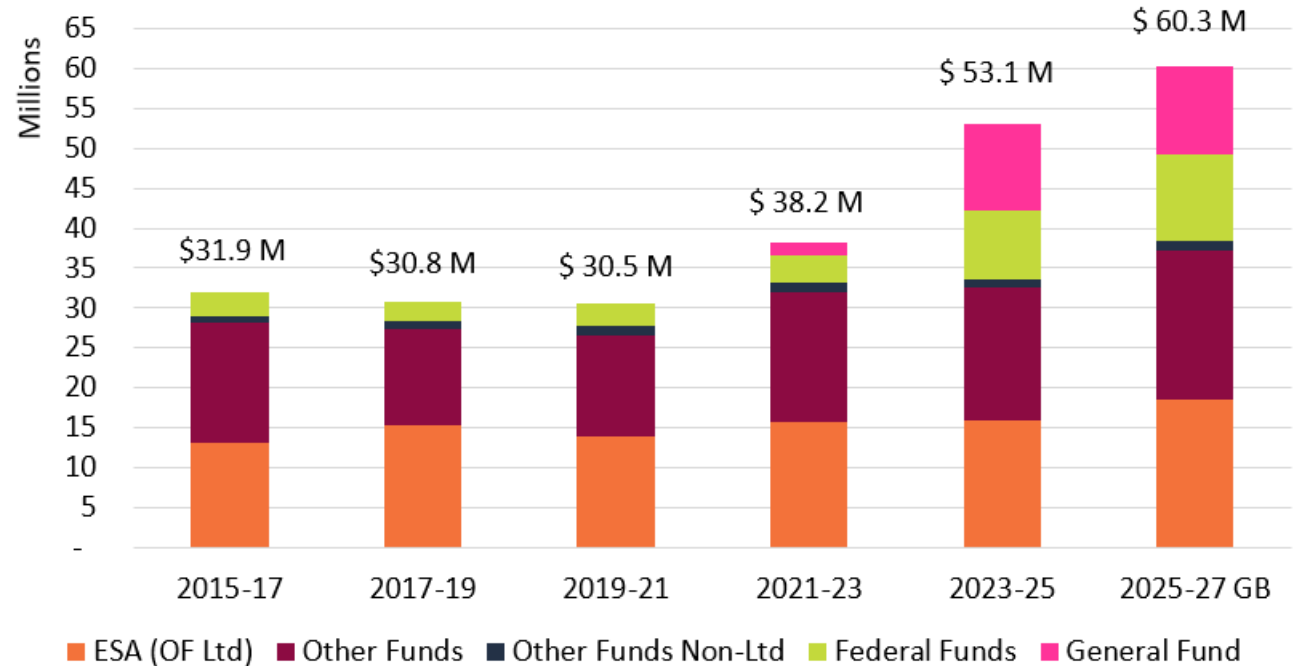


- Provides **business support functions** to efficiently deliver services and ensure the financial integrity of program operations.
- **Develops budget**, monitors cash flow, and is responsible for contract development, grants management, financial services, purchasing, and facilities.
- Leads efforts to bring **federal energy dollars** from the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act to Oregon.
- **Information Technology** services for both operational and business needs.
- Provides **Human Resources** services for recruitment, retention, training, policy development, and more.

How We're Funded

- \$174.5 Million Overall Budget (GRB)
- \$60.3 Million Operating Budget
- The Energy Supplier Assessment is charged to fuel providers and utilities producing energy in Oregon and helps to fund ODOE. All Oregonians pay for ESA when they pay for energy — about **\$1.87** for each Oregonian in 2024.
- For 2024, ODOE assessed **\$7.91 million** on **\$8.25 billion** of Gross Operating Revenues reported by ESA ratepayers.
- Under the 2025-2027 Governor's Recommended Budget for ODOE, the ESA would be about 18 percent higher than it is in the 2023-2025 biennium. The agency estimates that most utility customers' monthly power bills would be about 3-5 cents higher than in 2024.

Biennial Operating Budgets with Funding Sources



Thank you!

Questions? Please contact
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