

POWER Act

Protecting Oregonians With Energy Responsibility

HB 3546 A

THE PROBLEM

BIG ENERGY USERS V. OREGON HOUSEHOLDS

The demand for energy is growing rapidly in Oregon—mainly from data centers. This mass influx of these very large energy users is putting a strain on our energy system and driving up costs for everyone.

DATA CENTER LOAD GROWTH

PGE'S SYSTEM: 2019-2024



Data Centers' growth for PGE over the last 5 years is the equivalent of adding 406,000 people to PGE's system

People Added to PGE's System
2019-2024
60,800 People (24,300 Customers)

BILLING RATE INCREASES

PGE'S SYSTEM: 2015-2024

LARGE INDUSTRIAL
(Data centers' current class)
Up 2.08 cents/kWh



We're already seeing the impact of data centers not paying their share.

As we have seen significant growth in data centers, we have seen big increases in energy bills. Since 2021, PGE and Pacific Powers households' bills have increased by nearly 50%. In 2024, these utilities together disconnected nearly 58,000 households—the most since reporting started in 2018.

PROTECTING FAMILIES FROM LARGE ENERGY USERS

HB 3546: POWER ACT

The POWER Act (HB 3546) seeks to hold data centers accountable for paying for their own energy needs. This bill requires state regulators to create new policies to help protect Oregon households from paying for the energy needs of data centers. It will also make for-profit utilities identify the costs that these large energy users are adding to the system—and make them pay their share. By creating a special category for these customers, regulators can protect Oregonians from covering the cost of these businesses.

Oregon Public Utility Commission: Protecting Households and Small Businesses

- Create a new customer class for data centers and cryptocurrency shops starting at 20MW customers
- Protect families and small businesses from costs when bringing these new large energy users online and from paying for the costs of these large energy users in the future
- Provide a report on other large energy users' trends and growth in energy needs every two years

Data Centers: Ensuring Energy Investments Are Used & Paid For

- Sign contracts for at least 10 years to ensure expensive investments are worth it
- Pay for a minimum amount of energy in a period of time, even if they use less energy than expected
- Pay an extra fee if they use too much, ensuring excess costs don't go to households

We need data centers to pay their fair share. Their demand for energy is creating greater need to invest in our energy grid but the cost is largely going to everyone else. This bill will help state regulators assign these high costs to only those customers who are making them necessary in the first place.

This law would only apply to Oregon's For-Profit, Investor Owned Utilities: Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, Idaho Power

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COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONAL ENDORSEMENTS

