



January 30, 2025

727 Center Street, NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
503-370-4413  
fax 503-371-4781  
[www.opuda.org](http://www.opuda.org)

## OPUDA SUPPORTS HB 3119

The Oregon People's Utility District Association (OPUDA) requests that the Oregon Legislature pause the implementation of the Oregon Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) rule, which is not a viable option for electric utilities providing essential power for Oregonians. OPUDA utilities require specialty vehicles to maintain a resilient system. These specialty vehicles are critical to the communities we serve responding to emergencies to restore and repair electricity. Manufacturers that produce these vehicles, which are not available at dealerships in Oregon, have indicated that the ACT is problematic. OPUDA requested an exemption from the ACT rule under the "emergency vehicle" exemption, but Oregon DEQ indicated that the definition can only be adjusted by the State of California. Even if this legislature agreed that electric utility trucks are important emergency responders and that electric trucks responding to emergencies are not appropriate for responding to emergencies when the power is out, we cannot exempt those specialty vehicles without the approval of California. Our collective response to emergencies and mutual aid would likely be hampered under this mandate. That's a problem.

OPUDA is a membership organization with a mission of benefitting our customer owners. OPUDA's members include all of Oregon's electric People's Utility Districts (known as PUDs), not-for-profit utilities providing at-cost electric service to nearly two-thirds of the Oregon coastline, parts of Columbia and Multnomah counties, Lane County, and as far east as Wasco County. PUDs are governed by five-member Boards of Directors that are elected by voters in each PUD service area. Oregon's electric PUDs collectively serve over 200,000 people and deliver over 4.5 billion kilowatt hours of electricity to Oregonians annually. OPUDA member utilities provided over 400 family wage jobs in rural communities.

Oregon PUD's purchase nearly all energy from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), under 20-year contracts. That electricity sold to consumer-owned utilities (COUS) is clean and near zero carbon emissions from the Federal Columbia River Power System. As a result, Oregon COUs have been some of the cleanest utilities in the country since BPA was formed in 1937, setting a standard that few others can match.

With very limited options for compliance, we do not believe Oregon PUDs will be able to meet this truck mandate. We therefore ask that the Legislature delay implementation of this rule.

*Central Lincoln PUD – Newport*  
*Northern Wasco County PUD – The Dalles*

*Columbia River PUD – St. Helens*  
*Clatskanie PUD – Clatskanie*

*Emerald PUD – Eugene*  
*Tillamook PUD – Tillamook*