



# Oregon Citizens' Utility Board

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February 28, 2025

To: Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment  
From: Jennifer Hill-Hart, Policy & Program Director, Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB)  
Re: CUB opposes SB 92

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The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) is a statewide nonprofit consumer advocacy organization developed by citizens' initiative in 1984. CUB represents the interests of Oregon households by advocating for utility regulations and policies that protect your wallet. To date, we have saved Oregon ratepayers over \$10 billion. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 92. Given concerns over costs for residential customers, CUB opposes the bill.

The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) determined that community solar projects require a subsidy. The original law stated that the compensation for community solar should be based on its value to the grid, unless the Commission determines that some other compensation is necessary. The PUC found that a higher compensation rate was needed to support community solar and set the compensation at approximately twice the value to the grid. Ratepayers, including those who do not own or subscribe to a community solar project, pay these subsidies. CUB supported the Commission's decision to establish these subsidies.

Community solar is a good program and subsidizing it is okay, but it has to be at an appropriate size. Increasing the amount of solar up to 14.5% of load is too much and will require too big of a subsidy from the customers who are not part of a project. With rates spiking as they have and customers already struggling to pay their bills, we don't think this is a place where CUB can support increased costs for customers, particularly when they don't all benefit from it.

Unfortunately, CUB must oppose SB 92. We have shared these concerns with drafters of the bill and are having discussions about CUB's concerns.