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On Behalf Of: [www.oregoncub.org](http://www.oregoncub.org)  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3546

Measure: HB 3546: Directs the Public Utility Commission to provide for a classification of service for large energy use facilities.

Hello Members of the Committee,

The POWER Act seeks to hold large energy users 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, cryptocurrency, and other big tech. 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.

We Oregonians have valid concerns. The rapid growth of data centers is indeed placing significant stress on electrical infrastructure.

Increased Energy Demand:

>Data centers, especially those supporting AI applications, require massive amounts of electricity to operate. This surge in demand can overwhelm existing power grids.

>This increased demand is happening at a time when other factors, such as the rise of electric vehicles, are also putting pressure on the grid.

Grid Instability:

>The large and fluctuating power demands of data centers can lead to instability in the electrical grid, including voltage fluctuations and "harmonics" (distortions in the electrical waveform).

>These fluctuations can damage electrical equipment and increase the risk of power outages.

Infrastructure Limitations:

>Much of the existing electrical grid infrastructure is aging and was not designed to handle the massive power demands of modern data centers.

>Upgrading the grid to meet these demands is a costly and time-consuming process. The Tech sector want the additional bandwidth capacity in a hurry.

Location impact:

>The location of data centers has a large impact on the localized power grids. Areas that have large amounts of data center development are seeing the largest impacts

to their power grid.

As a senior Oregon homeowner, I support that the Public Utility Commission (PUC) is being instructed to establish a specific service classification for facilities that consume significant amounts of energy. Essentially, it's about creating a special category for "large energy users" to ensure they have appropriate service provisions.

Thank You