

Submitter: Meredith Diskin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3546

Large energy use facilities, including tech companies Amazon and Google, consume large amounts of energy and require large infrastructure maintenance and upgrades. These costs are forced on utility consumers in nearby communities. In Oregon, electric utilities have sent warnings to regulators that consumers need protections from rising rates caused by these large energy use facilities. In response, the tech firms deny the higher electric costs and say the utility costs pay for overdue improvements to the electric grid that benefits all customers. This is a lie. The dramatic strain on our electric grid, rising costs and increasing pollution from these facilities must not be tolerated, and they must pay for their fair share of costs required for infrastructure upgrades and electric utilities. This bill will help guarantee the public are not subsidizing the wealthiest corporations in the world.