



March 6, 2025

Committee on Climate, Energy & Environment
Oregon Legislative Assembly
900 Court St NE, Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for House Bill (HB) 3546 POWER Act

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Committee Members,

We write to urge you to support House Bill (HB) 3546, the Protecting Oregonians With Energy Responsibility Act, or POWER Act, and forward it with a “do pass” recommendation.

In recent years, data centers and other extremely high energy consuming tech businesses have flocked to Oregon, and extending the electrical system to serve these businesses can be costly. The POWER Act will ensure that residential and small business customers do not end up subsidizing the provision of power to these large businesses.

It is crucial to make these large energy users pay the costs of expanding the system to meet their needs. The POWER Act is one of several bills that are important in protecting residential and small business ratepayers who have been hit with double-digit increases in power costs.

We also urge passage of these other bills to make Oregon power rates more fair and equitable:

- Senate Bill (SB) 88, referred to as the “Getting Junk Out of Rates” bill, which would prohibit an electric or gas company from recovering from ratepayers costs or expenses associated with advertising, political influence activity, litigation, penalties or fines and certain compensation.
- HB 3179, the FAIR Energy Act, which would empower regulatory authorities to set rates at the lowest possible levels as well as timing changes to lessen the impacts of utility rate increases.

We know many of our residents have been suffering from the significant utility increases over recent years, and hope that the legislature will adopt these sensible tools to give Oregon residential ratepayers some relief.

If we can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at bateyl@milwaukieoregon.gov and khosroabadi@milwaukieoregon.gov.



Lisa M. Batey
Mayor



Adam Khosroabadi
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