

Submitter: Sharon Way

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3546

The demand for energy is growing rapidly in Oregon—mainly from data centers and other big tech. This mass influx of very large energy users is putting a strain on our energy system and driving up costs for everyone. We're already seeing the impact of large energy users not paying their share. As we have seen significant growth in data centers, we have seen big increases in energy bills. We need data centers, cryptocurrency, and other large energy users to pay their fair share.

The POWER Act (HB 3546) 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.

I support every word of this letter and am supportive of passing this bill. Thank you, for reading this! Sharon Way