



Amazon Web Services, Inc. • 1320 SW Broadway, STE 400, Portland, OR 97201

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301
April 30, 2025

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-chair Brock Smith, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on HB 3546. We have been engaging Representative Marsh, Citizens Utility Board, and a wide range of stakeholders for many months to improve the POWER Act in ways that will advance Oregon's ratepayer protection objectives and increase our confidence that Oregon is a place where we can continue to invest.

Since 2012 we have invested more than \$30 billion in the state, and more importantly, we've supported more than 7,400 estimated average full-time equivalent jobs at local businesses annually. Throughout that time, we've worked closely with utilities and grid operators to ensure we pay for the grid infrastructure we currently use and plan for future growth. Where we require specific infrastructure to meet our needs (such as new substations), we work to make sure that we're covering those costs and that they are not being passed on to other ratepayers.

Oregon Governor Tina Kotek recently announced a new AI workforce collaboration initiative, stating, "AI is transforming the way we live and work, and Oregon should not be left behind." This transformation cannot happen without data centers.

The U.S. power grid is undergoing a major transformation driven by factors like onshoring manufacturing, electrification of transportation, and expansion of digital infrastructure, as well as the transition to lower-carbon energy sources. However, the aging power grid infrastructure, much of which dates back to the 1960s and 1970s, is facing capacity challenges and was not originally designed for distributed renewable sources like solar and wind farms.

As society continues to rely more heavily on technology, global demands for energy and grid capacity continue to grow. It is important for states like Oregon to consider the positive opportunities of data centers in both AI development and sustainable energy solutions to meet these interconnected challenges.

As part of our Climate Pledge commitment, Amazon has invested in more than 600 renewable projects across the globe, is the largest corporate purchaser of renewable energy for five straight years, and in Oregon, we've committed to purchase more than 200,000-megawatt hours of carbon-free power each year from a Gilliam County-based wind farm. By investing in these projects, Amazon is helping fund new sources of carbon-free energy, which are helping decarbonize the grid in communities where our customers live and work.



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There is huge opportunity in Oregon to enable dozens of gigawatts of renewable energy currently stuck in the pipeline, but it can currently take up to 10 years to finalize and connect projects to the grid. We aim to be a strong partner with lawmakers and regulators to accelerate upgrades to transmission infrastructure and regional energy systems to reduce carbon intensity and meet the needs of Oregonians.

While we do not believe the current proposed legislation addresses these challenges, we remain committed to continued action with our utility partners and other industrial power customers to protect Oregon ratepayers. We will continue to work with the state for a more prosperous and sustainable future, and we're keen to continue hiring data center engineers, network and security specialists, and engineering operations managers, and supporting jobs such as electricians and fiber-optic technicians. Our investments create jobs, drive economic growth, and enhance education and training opportunities, and that produces a positive impact for the people who live and work in the communities where we operate. We encourage lawmakers to pause consideration of this bill to allow time for a more comprehensive solution that advances shared goals without unintended consequences, or consider additional amendments.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Kellogg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Shannon" and last name "Kellogg" clearly distinguishable.

Shannon Kellogg
Vice President, AWS Public Policy-Americas