

Submitter:

David Powell

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4080

I support the plug-in solar bill, HB 4080. Just like many cities in Oregon, Pendleton is working hard to increase its housing stock. Pendleton recently had a year where approximately 500 new apartments were added to Pendleton's housing inventory. Most of these apartment renters don't have the capability, or financial resources, to add rooftop solar and reap the resiliency benefits of doing so. But the plug-in solar option would allow them to add solar capability at a reasonable cost, generate up to 25% of their total electricity need by using renewable solar power, and avoid cumbersome interconnection agreements with a utility as long as the device generates no more than 1200 watts. If the bill requires that plug-in solar units be UL certified (which I support), then these devices will also be safe.

And most importantly for many of us rural Oregonians, pairing a plug-in solar unit with a battery system will allow apartment renters to have some power during an outage without needing to consider a generator unit.

I support allowing more Oregonians to participate in the ongoing transition to clean energy, and I urge passage of HB 4080.