

Oregon Public Utility Commission

Oregon Seismic Safety Regulated Utilities





PUC Safety Responsibilities

- Enforce National Electric Safety Code (NESC) for all electric and telecommunications utilities.
- Oversee seismic preparedness of investor owned utilities.
- Set and enforce service quality standards for investor-owned utilities.
- Ensure pipeline, power lines, transformer stations, and energy facilities operate safely.



PUC Safety Responsibilities

- Emergency response
 - Support utility disaster response for the state, ESF 2 and $ESF 12^*$
- Member of:
 - Oregon Emergency Response System (OERS)
 - Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team (IHMT)
 - Governor's Recovery Cabinet
 - Energy Emergency Management Team



OSSPAC Report

- The PUC was involved in the development of the recommendations with the knowledge that our authority and oversight is limited to the utilities that fall under our jurisdiction.
- The PUC has set clear expectations with the utilities that they are expected to be performing seismic assessments and undertake prudent investments in infrastructure.
- The PUC will work with the regulated utilities to achieve the goals in the report. These are accomplished through routine review of updated utility plans and audits of utilities' operations.
- The PUC will also continue to work with regional partners in areas that require collaboration and cooperation.

Emergency Preparedness Workshops

- The PUC has conducted two Emergency Preparedness Workshops with investor owned utilities and plans to conduct these workshops annually.
- Our aim is to improve the resilience of the energy systems to a major seismic event. Resilience consists of both prevention (e.g. hardening) and speedy restoration and recovery in the event of a major earthquake.
- The utilities have committed to:
 - Conduct Seismic Vulnerability Assessments
 - Identify critical infrastructure and critical areas
 - Identify the range of potential preventative actions and costs of those actions
 - Work with the PUC and parties to prioritize and implement actions

Emergency Preparedness Workshops

- During those workshops, the utilities identified critical contingencies for effective response:
 - Adequate transportation infrastructure
 - Available liquid fuel
 - Timely restoration of service by gas pipeline owners
 - Available communication systems
 - Timely rebuilding of infrastructure (with immunity from liability and waiver from permitting processes – included in OSSPAC recommendations)



PUC Contact Information

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