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Monday, February 25, 2019

The Honorable Ken Helm Chairman, House Energy and Environment Committee 900 Court Street, NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Helm:

I am writing on behalf of Pacific Power in support of the -4 amendments to House Bill 2242. Pacific Power was very engaged in the Oregon Public Utility Commission's process over the course of 2018 in examining Oregon's electric utility regulatory structure called for in Senate Bill 978 (2017). That work covered a broad spectrum of issues and stakeholder views, and was instructive to our company on the need to create more opportunities for inclusion and representation in the regulatory process.

As the provider of last resort, Pacific Power and Oregon's regulated electric utilities have a long history of providing non-discriminatory and open access to necessary services to all customers. As a fully integrated service provider, we have been and will continue to be a successful model for ensuring affordable, dependable, and accountable service that leaves no person or community behind. But we can do even better to reflect the economic needs and conditions of the communities we are proud to serve. We believe the -4 amendments to House Bill 2242 are good and allow us to take an important step toward improving the electric sector's regulatory model.

House Bill 2242 is the product of substantial stakeholder involvement meant to ensure that traditionally underrepresented stakeholders are included in the regulatory decisions that affect our customers. This legislation will build more expertise to identify gaps and strategies to ensuring equitable outcomes in the regulatory processes the OPUC considers.

Pacific Power supports a more inclusive regulatory stakeholder process. We are open to whether that expertise should appear in the form of a formal office within the OPUC or through other structures including an independent non-profit organization.

Thank you,

Scott D. Balton

Scott D. Bolton Senior Vice President, External Affairs & Customer Solutions Pacific Power