



Eugene Water & Electric Board

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Dear Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown and Members of the Committee:

The Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 1044. EWEB views the adoption of electric vehicles in our community as a positive direction from an environmental, societal and economic standpoint. Electric vehicles can deliver carbon reductions, health benefits, and lower refueling costs.

The City of Eugene's Climate Recovery Ordinances and the City's Transportation System Plan (TSP) Implementation Plan describes a goal of a community fleet comprised of 50% electric vehicles by 2030 and 90% EVs by 2050, including a role of the City in encouraging more use of electric vehicles in Eugene through provision of charging infrastructure, building codes, incentives and other means. EWEB is a key partner to the City, with overlapping deep decarbonization goals of our own in EWEB's Climate Policy that also include the electrification of transportation.

EWEB strongly supports expanding the scope of Oregon's Biennial Energy Report to include assessments on the progress of the deployment of electric vehicles in Oregon, the availability and reliability of charging infrastructure, and consumer awareness of the benefits of EV ownership and available incentives. Charging Infrastructure, Incentives and Education do impact the adoption rate for electric vehicles.

We also encourage evaluating the optimization of charging at times when the electricity mix is cleanest and avoiding charging that adds to the peak. We believe that this optimization can be accomplished, but it is crucial to be mindful of striving for "smart electrification", not simply any and all electrification.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this legislation and the importance of electric vehicles to Oregon's future.

Jason Heuser
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