

MAY 04 2021



# Oregon Citizens Utility Board

May 6, 2021

Fr: Oregon Citizens' Utility Board (CUB)  
Re: Support for HB 2165-A

From the Office Of:  
Representative Karin Power

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to be "K. Power".

## **Oregon's Advocate for Residential Utility Customers Supports HB 2165-A**

Oregon's largest electric utilities - Portland General Electric and Pacific Power - are obligated to serve their customers, including electric vehicle owners. These utilities need to manage load, and their customers benefit from generally predictable and low costs. Anticipated load growth from the electrification of the transportation sector requires investment in infrastructure and programs.

Transportation electrification benefits all customers. Electric vehicles generate revenue for utilities as load. Electric utilities can use this revenue to offset other costs. Lowering costs can lower bills, including for those who don't own electric vehicles. Portland General Electric and Pacific Power can invest millions in transportation electrification infrastructure and programs and still ensure that all customers benefit from lower costs and a hardened distribution system.

HB 2165-A includes a 0.25 percent surcharge on Portland General Electric and Pacific Power retail customers. This would raise an amount well below the amount CUB believes is reasonable for these utilities to invest in transportation electrification infrastructure and programs.

The surcharge represents a reasonable and reliable investment floor, and there is a real need for additional utility investment. Electric vehicle owners, especially those who do not own single family homes, need adequate service. Businesses, state and local government, and schools that want to electrify vehicle fleets need service to parking lots and garages. Highways need reliable electric charging locations to facilitate travel around Oregon.

CUB urges your support for HB 2165-A.