

Enrolled
Senate Bill 589

Sponsored by Senator TAYLOR, Representative POWER, Senator BEYER, Representative HELM;
Senator DEMBROW, Representatives LEIF, MARSH, OWENS (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to a regional transmission organization; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Energy, in consultation with the Public Utility Commission, shall prepare a report identifying the benefits, opportunities and challenges posed by the development or expansion of a regional transmission organization in this state.

(2) As part of preparing the report required by this section, the department shall review studies and reports relevant to the development or expansion of a regional transmission organization in this state made available between January 1, 2019, and July 1, 2021, and conduct a literature review of other existing studies and reports pertaining to regional transmission organization development in the western United States.

(3) The department shall be advised by an advisory committee in drafting the report. The advisory committee shall, at a minimum, include:

- (a) One member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;**
- (b) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;**
- (c) One member of the Public Utility Commission or a designee of the commission;**
- (d) One representative of the Office of the Governor; and**
- (e) The following nine members appointed by the department:**
 - (A) Two representatives of investor owned utilities that provide retail energy to customers in Oregon;**
 - (B) One representative of a rural electric cooperative;**
 - (C) One representative of a people’s utility district;**
 - (D) One representative of a municipal electric utility;**
 - (E) One representative of independent power producers;**
 - (F) One representative of a nonprofit organization with expertise in markets and transmission;**
 - (G) One representative of a labor organization; and**
 - (H) One representative of an organization with expertise in environmental and social justice.**

(4)(a) Upon completion of the reviews required by subsection (2) of this section, the department, in consultation with the Public Utility Commission, shall prepare a summary of the reviews and a set of scoping questions informed by those reviews, to be shared with the

advisory committee required under subsection (3) of this section in preparation for advisory committee meetings. The department shall:

(A) Hold no less than two meetings with the advisory committee to gather advice from the committee on the benefits, opportunities and challenges posed by the development or expansion of a regional transmission organization in this state; and

(B) Gather written responses from advisory committee members to the scoping questions prepared by the department.

(b) In addition to gathering advice from the advisory committee, the department shall, to the extent feasible:

(A) Gather advice from the Bonneville Power Administration and any other relevant state, regional or federal entities; and

(B) Consider any relevant studies, reports, literature or drafts thereof that are made available after July 1, 2021, but before the department finalizes the report required by this section.

(5) The department shall provide the report required by this section to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to energy, in the manner provided in ORS 192.245, no later than December 31, 2021. The report shall include the department's findings from the review required under subsection (2) of this section and a summary of the advice gathered and reviews undertaken by the department pursuant to subsection (4) of this section. The report may include recommendations for legislation.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2022.

SECTION 3. This 2021 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2021 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by Senate April 7, 2021

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Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Passed by House May 12, 2021

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2021

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State