

HB 2989 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/27, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) and Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to convene a work group to examine renewable energy and transmission project siting in this state. Establishes work group membership, direction, and meeting criteria. Requires members of the work group to provide data related to the areas of study upon request from ODOE and DLCD. Requires ODOE and DLCD to submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to energy on the work group's findings and recommendations, and may include recommendations for legislation, no later than September 15, 2024. Sunsets work group and related activities January 2, 2025. Appropriates \$_____ from the General Fund to ODOE for the purpose of carrying out the work group and related activities. Appropriates \$_____ from the General Fund to DLCD for the purpose of carrying out the work group and related activities. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

- *Fiscal: May have fiscal impact, but no statement issued yet*
- *Revenue: May have revenue impact, but no statement issued yet*

Subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Large energy facilities builders in Oregon must apply for a site certificate from the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) before they can begin construction. The certificate or amended certificate authorizes the applicant to construct, operate, and retire the facility subject to the conditions set forth in the site certificate or amended site certificate. Site certificates or amended site certificates last for the duration of the life of the facility. Electric power generators that are not connected to the electricity grid and act as backup standby generators must secure permits for operations, including limits on operational hours to minimize air pollution emissions, from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and local governments, and those that are over 25 megawatts also need to apply for a site certificate or an exemption from the EFSC.

House Bill 2989 would require the Oregon Department of Energy and Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to convene a work group to examine renewable energy and transmission project siting in this state.