

HB 3055 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) to establish eligibility cap for standard avoided costs rates and contracts for the purchase of energy or energy and capacity from qualifying facilities at no less than 10 megawatts. Requires PUC to permit energy storage system to be paired with qualifying facility such that the energy storage system provides storage capacity for the energy produced by the small power production facility. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

- Fiscal Impact: Has Minimal Fiscal Impact
- Revenue Impact: No Revenue Impact
- House Vote: Ayes, 37; Nays, 17

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) required the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to adopt regulations for electric utilities to offer to purchase power from, and interconnect with, qualifying, non-utility energy generation projects. A “qualifying facility” is defined as a cogeneration facility or a small power production facility (ORS 758.505). According to the Oregon Department of Energy, a small power production facility generates 80 megawatts (MW) of electricity or less from renewable energy sources such as hydropower, wind, or solar.

House Bill 3055 A requires the Oregon Public Utility Commission to establish an eligibility cap for standard avoided costs rates and contracts for the purchase of energy or energy and capacity from qualifying facilities at no less than 10 megawatts.