



February 13, 2023

Chair Marsh
House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 3160

Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee,

HB 3060 is a simple and common sense bill that would improve and modernize several of OPUC's practices. We support this measure. Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis.

We find the following improvements to be necessary to OPUC's continued effectiveness:

1. Modifying the period of suspension of a proposed utility rate schedule from initial six-month period plus additional three-month period to single nine-month period. *This provision simply condenses the period of suspension.*
2. Extending the period during which OPUC shall issue order on application to acquire public utility from within 19 business days of receiving application to 11 months. *This provision gives OPUC more time to deliberate on the important role of overseeing public utility acquisition.*
3. Requiring notice to describe area of proposed exclusive service territory and general rate impact to existing customers. Allows notice via electronic mail rather than through newspapers. *This provision modernizes the notice requirement to ratepayers and recognizes the dominance of electronic mail as a communication method.*
4. Changing notice of application for order allocating service territory to electronic mail and press release to news media in the service territory. *Similar to the above provision, this change also creates efficiencies by allowing notice through electronic mail and press release.*

Periodically assessing the relevance of OPUC practices against current needs is an important role of the legislature. OPUC performs valuable work on behalf of Oregonians in meeting our three-pronged goal of securing reliable, affordable, and clean energy. HB 3160 will conserve time and resources of both OPUC and ratepayers.

Sincerely,

Joshua Basofin

Joshua Basofin
Clean Energy Policy Manager
Climate Solutions