

Submitter: Karen Wolfgang

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural
Resources

Measure: HB5016

We have many ways to buckle down and implement our climate action goals, and this is one of them!! Ever-worsening climate impacts across the state have made clearer than ever the need to maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. It is therefore essential that the legislature adequately fund the Oregon Department of Energy, an agency with a mission to do just that. Oregon is stronger and better positioned to navigate the innovations and changes in energy sectors if our state energy department is well-resourced and able to provide decision-makers with technical and policy expertise. An effective ODOE requires adequate resources to support these and other important functions.

Further, as Oregon's chief agency responsible for matters related to energy production, conservation and related safety and environmental impacts, ODOE has a critical role to play in helping the state achieve its climate goals. As a powerhouse of information, data and policy analytics, ODOE can help inform and ensure the strongest possible climate policy outcomes. Likewise, ODOE will have a key role to play in leveraging and administering unprecedented federal funding and incentives for clean energy.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support SB 5016. Thank you for your time.