

Submitter: Alan Vandehey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3152

House Committee 3152,

Please vote no on HB 3152. Limiting energy options to consumers will lead to over reliance on one resource and could lead to destabilizing our electric grid without a viable mix of generation resources. I strongly believe in having energy diversity in our state and country to provide energy security and promote economic growth. Renewables alone will not provide this security and growth. Having spent 35 years in the electric power industry and most recently in renewable energy, I understand the limitations of wind and solar resources and that they will only ever be incremental additions to our energy mix. I believe that our state should be more strategic in promoting energy resources, rather than cancelling one resource, such as natural gas, and hope for the best outcome.

Additionally, this bill will eliminate Oregonian's options to choose the type of energy that we want in our homes by eliminating a critical source of funding through the Energy Trust of Oregon for the replacement of natural gas appliances. Natural gas is a critical energy source for many Oregonians and allows us to maintain a quality of life. By eliminating the use of ratepayer dollars for line extensions, the legislature is making it harder for natural gas to remain affordable and dependable for many Oregonians - including our most vulnerable communities throughout the state - and displaces hundreds of good quality careers that depend on the industry for jobs.

Lastly, the bill delegates very broad powers to the PUC to do whatever it is they must do to reach climate targets. The PUC already does the work needed to properly investigate, justify and implement energy planning proposals. Their role is already well-defined and they do not need anymore powers than they already have to reach our climate goals for the State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time and please vote no on HB 3152 that threatens our energy security and choices and ignores the need for strategic and equitable climate outcomes. Alan Vandehey