

PGE Support for SB 58: Cloud Seeding

March 15, 2023

Thank you for the opportunity to share Portland General Electric's support of SB 58. The bill lays out a process at the Oregon Water Resources Department to explore cloud seeding in Oregon, with a specific focus on the Deschutes River Basin.

PGE is a fully integrated electric utility that serves over 900,000 customers with a service area population of 2 million Oregonians in seven counties and 51 incorporated cities. We have generation facilities across the state—including the Pelton Round Butte hydroelectric project along a 20-mile stretch of the Deschutes Canyon.

Much of Oregon remains in some form of drought, with portions of Central Oregon in Extreme and Exception drought according to the US Drought Monitor. Knowing the severe impacts of drought on the Deschutes Basin, we encourage the Senate Natural Resources Committee to explore cloud seeding as a potential tool to help mitigate the effects of drought across our region.

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