



**Portland General Electric**

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March 30, 2023

Chair Julie Fahey  
House Rules Committee  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for HCR 20, Willamette Falls Locks 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice Chairs Breese-Iverson and Kropf, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to write in support of HCR 20, commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Willamette Falls Locks.

The Willamette Falls are a vital part of Portland General Electric's (PGE's) history and future. It's home to the nation's first long distance transmission of electricity on the east side of the falls, in 1889, by PGE's predecessor. For over 120 years, we've operated the T.W. Sullivan Hydroelectric Project, a certified low-impact renewable energy facility generating emissions-free electricity on the west side of the Falls. After extensive fish protection efforts and passage improvements, PGE continues to work to enhance the health and welfare of fish in the Willamette River.

PGE was actively engaged with the Willamette Falls Locks Commission and now with the Willamette Falls Locks Authority, established by the legislature in 2021 in HB 2563. We fully support the community's desire to restore the Locks to operational status and achieve their reopening. The Locks are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and are an invaluable part of Oregon's story. Until shutdown by the Army Corps in 2011, the Locks were a fully functional, continuously operating bridge between the upper and lower portions of the Willamette River. As custodians of several historic resources ourselves, PGE takes pride in powering the future while protecting the past. Additionally, we believe that a navigable Willamette River will honor the area's history, while providing an impetus to cultural and economic growth for the region and our state.

We urge your support of HCR 20.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sania Radcliffe".

Sania Radcliffe  
Director of Government Affairs and Environmental Policy