



2/9/2024

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 1581.

I am an electrical engineer, a long-time Oregon resident, and a member of the Legislative Committee of the Portland chapter of Climate Reality.

Climate Reality PDX strongly supports SB 1581, a bill which will require large investor-owned utilities that sell over 2 million MWh of electricity per year to provide an annual update to the Legislature on any activities that the utility is taking towards joining a regional energy market.

Generating significantly more clean energy is not sufficient to address the climate crisis. We must also have the infrastructure to distribute the energy produced in an efficient and effective manner. A regional energy market could result in cost savings to customers, better reliability, and access to geographically diverse clean energy sources. Because of its importance to Oregon residents and businesses, transparency about utility company plans to join a regional energy market is important. Annual reports to the Legislature will help with planning and identifying any legislative support that is needed.

Please support SB 1581.

Sincerely,

Amanda Duncan, PhD
Climate Reality, Portland chapter

About The Climate Reality Project

The Climate Reality Project, Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led group affiliated with the international non-profit The Climate Reality Project founded by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze a global solution to the climate crisis by making urgent action a necessity across every sector of society. With a global movement more than 5 million strong and a grassroots network of trained Climate Reality Leader activists, we're spreading the truth about the climate crisis and building popular support for clean energy solutions. For more information, visit the Portland Chapter at <https://climaterealitypdx.com/> and the Climate Reality Project at www.climaterealityproject.org.