



Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

February 22, 2024

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Findley, and members of the committee,

The Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association (OSSIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar technologies. OSSIA members include businesses, non-profit groups, and other solar and storage industry stakeholders. We provide a unified voice of the solar industry and focus exclusively on the solar value chain; from workforce development to permitting, advocacy, policy, and regulation for manufacturing, residential, commercial, community, and utility scale solar projects on the local, state and regional level.

OSSIA supports HB 4015, which would enable the Energy Facility Siting Council to site standalone Battery Energy Storage Systems. OSSIA supports this measure because standalone storage is instrumental to enabling Oregon to meet its clean energy goals by providing an additional pathway for siting battery storage. The bill enables counties to send complex projects to EFSC, enabling counties to make a choice about how these projects can be permitted. The bill also adds a long overdue definition of a BESS to Oregon statute. As utilities ramp up to prepare for compliance with Oregon's emission reduction, the state will see significant development of battery systems to provide much-needed capacity resources.

OSSIA supports HB 4015 and urges this committee to vote yes.

Sincerely,

Jack Watson
Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs