

HB 3346 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Meeting Dates: 3/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to study issues regarding siting of energy facilities in designated critical groundwater areas and to report its findings to an appropriate interim committee of the legislature by September 15, 2026.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Critical groundwater area (CGA) is a statutory designation that allows the Water Resources Commission, in rule, to not only limit the issuance of new groundwater rights, but also impose a range of restrictions on existing ground water rights. Oregon currently has seven CGAs.