

SB 1160 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

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Meeting Dates: 3/26, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to conduct a study to carry out a cost-benefit analysis of deploying renewable energy projects in this state. Requires ODOE, with the assistance of the Public Utility Commission, to collect all necessary data, including data from entities that represent small-scale and community-based renewable energy projects and public utilities. Requires ODOE to balance the public interest in information and the proprietary interests of owners and operators when collecting data. Requires ODOE to submit a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to energy no later than September 30, 2026 and repeals provisions of the Act on January 2, 2027. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Requires the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to:

- study the financial costs for developing certain qualifying facilities and small-scale renewable energy projects (20 megawatts or less);
- potential costs and savings of secondary benefits such as resiliency or reliability; and
- report to the Legislative Committee related to energy no later than September 30, 2026.

Requires ODOE, with assistance from the Public Utility Commission, to collect all necessary data from project owners, developers, and public utilities and to balance the public interest in the information and proprietary interest of owners in collecting data and drafting report.

BACKGROUND:

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration in 2023, hydroelectric power accounted for 42% of Oregon's total electricity generation, natural gas-fired power plants provided 38% of the state's total net generation and nonhydroelectric renewable resources—wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal power—provide almost all the rest of Oregon's total generation, about 21%. The Oregon Department of Energy provides technical and policy expertise to support renewable energy project development across the state.