

**HB 3874 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**  
**Senate Committee On Energy and Environment**

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**Meeting Dates:** 4/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure increases, from 50 to 100 megawatts, the average electric generating capacity of wind energy facility to defer regulatory authority to the Energy Facility Siting Council, requiring the developer of a facility to obtain a site certificate.

- Minimal Fiscal Impact
- No Revenue Impact
- Ayes, 41; Nays, 14

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

-1 The amendment requires a county to require an applicant to provide a decommissioning plan to restore the site to a useful, nonhazardous condition if the renewable energy facility is an electric power generating plant with an average electric generating capacity of at least 50 megawatts but less than 100 megawatts and produces the power from wind energy at a single energy facility or within a single energy generation area. Requires decommissioning plan to include bonding or other security as financial assurance.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2022, wind energy made up 12.6 percent of energy produced in Oregon, from 50 operating wind facilities, according to the Oregon Department of Energy. Large energy facility builders in Oregon must apply for a site certificate from the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) before they can begin construction. Facilities that fall under certain acreage limits have the option of going through a county siting process. House Bill 3179 (2023) increased the allowable size a solar photovoltaic power generation facility could be and still use a county siting process rather than the EFSC process.