

House Bill 2065

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment for Representative John Lively)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Allows the use of a third party to study or evaluate a request to connect a project to a power system. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.6).

Allows a person to contract with a third-party consultant to conduct a study or engineering evaluation that a public utility requires for an application to interconnect a community renewable energy project or microgrid.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the interconnection process; and prescribing an effective date.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 757.**

5 **SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

6 (a) **“Community renewable energy project” has the meaning given that term in section**
7 **29, chapter 508, Oregon Laws 2021.**

8 (b) **“Microgrid” means an interconnected system of loads and energy resources appro-**
9 **priately sized to meet customer needs within clearly defined electrical boundaries that can**
10 **function as a single, controllable system independent from a utility transmission or distrib-**
11 **ution system.**

12 (c) **“Public utility” means a utility regulated by the Public Utility Commission under ORS**
13 **chapter 757 that provides electric power to consumers.**

14 (2) **When a person applies to a public utility for authority to interconnect a community**
15 **renewable energy project or microgrid with the public utility’s transmission or distribution**
16 **system and the public utility concludes that the proposed interconnection requires a study**
17 **or engineering evaluation, the person shall have the option to:**

18 (a) **Agree to have the public utility conduct the study or evaluation; or**

19 (b) **Contract with a third-party consultant to conduct the study or evaluation, subject to**
20 **the public utility’s reasonable review and approval of the study or evaluation.**

21 (3) **A person who agrees to have the public utility conduct the study or engineering**
22 **evaluation under subsection (2) of this section shall reimburse the public utility for the rea-**
23 **sonable costs incurred by the public utility in performing the study or evaluation.**

24 (4) **A public utility may, as a technical collaborator, contract with a third-party consult-**
25 **ant to conduct the study or engineering evaluation requested under subsection (2) of this**
26 **section.**

27 (5) **A report that is produced from a study or engineering evaluation conducted under**
28 **subsection (2) of this section and has received a professional engineer stamp of approval shall**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 be considered a final report for purposes of review by a public utility of an application to
2 interconnect a community renewable energy project or microgrid with the public utility's
3 transmission or distribution system.

4 (6) This section does not apply to an interconnection between a community renewable
5 energy project or microgrid and a public utility that is subject to the jurisdiction of the
6 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

7 SECTION 3. This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2025
8 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

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