

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3346

Ordered by the House April 2
Including House Amendments dated April 2

Sponsored by Representative OWENS; Representative BOICE

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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: This Act makes DLCD study land use for energy siting in areas short on ground water. (Flesch Readability Score: 68.9).

Requires the Department of Land Conservation and Development, **in consultation with the Department of Revenue, State Department of Energy and Water Resources Department**, to study siting of energy facilities in designated critical ground water areas **east of the Cascade Range**. Directs the *[department to submit]* **Department of Land Conservation and Development to summarize** findings to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to land use not later than *[September 15]* **November 30, 2026**.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to siting of energy facilities in designated critical ground water areas.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) On or before November 30, 2026, the Department of Land Conservation**
5 **and Development, in consultation with the Department of Revenue, State Department of**
6 **Energy and Water Resources Department, shall prepare a study of issues regarding the**
7 **small-scale renewable energy facilities sited in areas classified as critical ground water areas**
8 **east of the Cascade Range, including:**

9 (a) **Options for changes that could be made in legislation, statewide land use planning**
10 **goals, Land Conservation and Development Commission rules, local government comprehen-**
11 **sive plans or land use regulations to facilitate the approval of facilities by a conditional use**
12 **process, rather than as a goal exception.**

13 (b) **Changes that could be made in legislation to reduce the property tax burdens for fa-**
14 **ilities, including reductions to special assessment disqualification and additional tax liabil-**
15 **ities for properties converted from farm use.**

16 (c) **The feasibility of development or investment participation in facilities by electric co-**
17 **operatives.**

18 (d) **Specific land use siting issues for:**

19 (A) **Various types of facilities, including solar, wind and geothermal; and**

20 (B) **Various generation capacities of facilities, including net metered systems, community**
21 **solar facilities and facilities generating over two megawatts of energy.**

22 (2) **On or before November 30, 2026, the Department of Land Conservation and Develop-**
23 **ment shall provide a report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related**
24 **to land use in the manner provided in ORS 192.245 summarizing the results of the study**
25 **conducted under this section.**

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.

