



February 5, 2025

Representative John Lively, Chair
House Committee on Climate, Energy & Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Consumer-Owned Utilities' Amendment Request to HB 2066

Dear Chair Lively, Vice Chair Gamba, Vice Chair Levy and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy & Environment:

Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Association (OMEU) is made up of eleven municipally owned and operated electric utilities. Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) is the state's largest consumer-owned utility (COU). The Oregon People's Utility District Association (OPUDA) includes all of Oregon's six PUDs. The Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association (ORECA) represents 18 electric cooperatives. Together we serve well over 500,000 Oregonians. As COUs we are directly accountable to the people we serve through our city councils and local governing boards. Our rates are not-for-profit and set to cover the costs of service, not to earn a rate of return for investors.

We have been working with the chief sponsor and bill proponents on an amendment to HB 2066 that more closely aligns HB 2066 with the local governance of COUs. Specifically, the bill inadvertently fails to recognize that the Public Utility Commission has no regulatory jurisdiction over COUs beyond electric safety and compliance with the National Electric Safety Code. Rates, regulations and policies are set by our local governing boards.

To address this, we respectfully request that the Committee adopt the following amendment:

- On p. 1, line 23 after "microgrids" insert "within investor-owned utility service territories."

With the incorporation of this amendment, we are prepared to withdraw our opposition to HB 2066.

Thank you for your recognition of this fundamental distinction in the governance of IOUs and COUs.

Respectfully,

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Oregon Municipal Electric Utilities Assn

Jason Heuser
Policy & Government Program Manager
Eugene Water & Electric Board

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