

February 4, 2025

Oregon Senate Rules Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Karin Power Nomination to the Public Utility Commission (PUC)

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Bonham, and Members of the Senate Rules Committee,

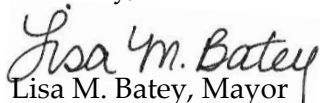
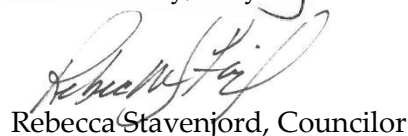
The Milwaukie City Council is thrilled to submit this letter in support of the governor's appointment of Karin Power to the Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC). We believe Karin would be an excellent commissioner and we encourage you to approve her appointment.

Karin served as a Milwaukie City Councilor a decade ago, so we might be the tiniest bit biased. But objectively, Karin is the perfect person to serve on the PUC. She is an attorney with a keen ability to cut through the "noise" and get to the heart of an issue. She has served in a variety of roles in the past dozen years that provide her with a broad-ranging information base for decision making – from being counsel to The Freshwater Trust to being a Milwaukie councilor, state representative, and an advisor to the governor. She has seen the workings of the state from all angles.

In addition to her intellectual prowess, Karin has shown time and again her dedication to equitable access and treatment for all members of the community. As city councilor, she was instrumental in the effort to fund and build the new Ledding Library, which opened in 2020. The library serves the whole community through its collection and programming, but it is also a place for connecting residents, including the houseless, with needed services – a goal Karin saw the need for a decade ago. As a legislator, Karin was more than just a champion for our climate, she had the unique ability to communicate legally complex issues into understandable policy goals. Few can forget the hours she spent on the house floor while carrying Oregon House Bill (HB) 2020, deftly answering questions about the nuance of a 100-page bill to meaningfully address our climate crisis. Her work in 2021 to establish the Oregon Department of Early Learning and Care demonstrates a much-needed understanding of how to work with our agencies to ensure they deliver for Oregonians.

In sum, we are certain that Karin Power is the right person to weigh the complex interests of residential and commercial ratepayers, utilities, and the needed efforts by all of us to address climate change. We urge you to approve her appointment and let Karin get to work for Oregonians in this new role.

Sincerely,


Lisa M. Batey, Mayor
Will Anderson, Council President
Adam Khosroabadi, Councilor
Rebecca Stavenjord, Councilor
Robert Massey, Councilor