

HB 2565-1: CONTRACTING WITH NATIONAL LABS

- HB 2565-1 would allow contracting with National Labs, or “Federally Funded Research and Development Centers. The -1 amendment clarifies which centers are included.
- Most National Labs are sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, including: Pacific NW National Lab (Richland, Washington), Idaho National Lab (Idaho Falls), National Renewable Energy Lab (Golden, Colorado)
- Labs are sponsored and managed by federal agencies, but are operated by contractors or universities. Most employees are not federal employees.
- While labs primarily work for the federal government, they can and do work for other governments (states, cities) and the private sector. Current barriers in Oregon contracting law restrict our ability to hire labs to do work on our behalf.
- Labs do not bid on RFPs, but because they are operated by contractors, ODOE cannot direct-award like we can with other governments.

