

Submitter: Richard Wisner

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2656

February 18th, 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Re: House Bill 2656

Dear Chair Representative Lively, Vice-Chairs Representatives Gamba and Levy and members of the Committee:

I've had a small net-metered photovoltaic system at my home since 2012 which should indicate I am an advocate of net metering systems. But for starters, please be sure to read the testimony Tucker Billman, Director of Government Relations for the Oregon Electric Cooperative Association, sent you.

As an example, in Oregon, and elsewhere, have you ever noticed windmills that are not operating? There's a reason for that that isn't always so maintenance can be done. Electric grids are only able to safely handle just so much electrical input, regardless of the source. That's precisely why they regulate it. HB 2055 will eliminate that ability. Think about that.

There are laws of Physics that dictate how much electrical input can be safely managed by any grid system. Passing this bill is just asking for trouble. This bill has all the ear-marks of legislation that is going to require re-doing down the line. Unintended consequence, all on the down side, are written all over it. Consequences of this bill, if passed, will catch up with us one day.

There are no advantages to taking away the ability for municipal electric utilities, electric cooperatives and people's utility districts from being able to determine, and regulate, how much electrical input their systems are capable of handling. The people who provide and distribute our electricity to serve our needs actually do understand the system and know what they're doing.

Contrary to wishful thinking there are limits to what can actually be accomplished by poorly thought out legislative bills.

It is more important to stop bad bills that it is to pass good ones.

Thank you,
Richard Wisner