



---

2129 N Coast Hwy • P.O. Box 1126 • Newport, OR 97365-0090 • 877-265-3211 • clpud.org

**House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development**

Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**Subject: Support for House Bill 3219 – Sustained State Funding for the Oregon Hazards Lab**

Dear Chair Hudson, Vice-Chairs Harbick and Fragala, and Members of the Committee,

Central Lincoln PUD is pleased to support HB 3219, which seeks to establish sustained state funding for the Oregon Hazards Lab (OHAZ) at the University of Oregon. As a large community-owned power utility serving coastal communities from Lincoln Beach to North Bend, we are constantly reminded of the importance of OHAZ, with whom we have partnered to address critical issues in our service area like the pressing threat of a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) event and the importance of wildfire detection.

Through this partnership, we are proud to have seven of OHAZ's ShakeAlert seismic sensors deployed on Central Lincoln PUD property, as well as an AlertWildfire camera mounted on Central Lincoln PUD's communication tower on Table Mountain, overlooking massive coastal timberland acreage. As such, OHAZ is a critical asset for disaster preparedness and response efforts in our service area, across Oregon, and in adjacent states. Through its seismic, wildfire, and remote sensing networks, OHAZ provides real-time, life-saving data that helps emergency responders and communities detect, mitigate, and respond to earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, and other disasters.

At our utility, we use the ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning System to provide our staff with crucial moments to get to safety *before* a catastrophic CSZ event. This will prove vital in Central Lincoln's response after such an event, restoring critical and lifesaving electrical service for our customers. Additionally, OHAZ's wildfire systems are increasingly vital in an era of escalating wildfire risk. There is no doubt that these two systems represent critical infrastructure for our utility.

We urge your support for House Bill 3219, securing the future of OHAZ. Not only will these systems save lives and property, but they will help OHAZ partners, like Central Lincoln, respond to major events and provide critical and often lifesaving services for Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Eric Chambers  
Director of Employee, Customer, and Community Services  
Central Lincoln PUD