

Submitter: Carla Wise

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3336

As you know, Oregon will face growing demand for electricity in the coming years and decades, and our current electric transmission infrastructure is inadequate. GETs are a cost-effective way of increasing the capacity of our existing transmission infrastructure in the near-term. However, the incentives for utilities are set up in opposition to the public interest. Because utilities earn a return from investments, and GETs decrease the need for major investments, they have not received the acceptance in the US that they enjoy in Europe. However, GETs are the cheapest and quickest way to create more capacity in our transmission system, and we need them here in Oregon! This bill would require Oregon electric utilities to incorporate GETs into their future planning, and therefore help us begin to solve the issues with electric transmission infrastructure that threaten our state. I strongly support this and the other bills designed to help improve electricity supply and infrastructure issues facing Oregon.