

24 February 2025

House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: HB 3336 - Support

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the Committee:

According to industry experts, “Electricity demand in the Northwest is expected to grow more than 30% in the next decade, or about 5% more than estimated last year and triple the prediction three years ago” (see [here](#)). Oregon’s 3 investor-owned utilities rely on BPA’s infrastructure for long distance transmission and it has more than 640 requests totaling 68 gigawatts in its transmission queue.

Grid Enhancement Technologies (GETs) are hardware or software innovations that allow the electricity transmission system to operate more efficiently. Installing GETs will allow the existing transmission system to carry more electricity, which is critical to meeting growing, near-term loads, especially from data centers, the electrification of vehicles and meeting the heating and cooling needs of buildings. HB 3336 would require Oregon electric utilities to plan for and deploy cost-effective GETs and reconductoring into their Integrated Resource Plans. Not only can GETs legislation help provide additional transmission capacity faster and cheaper than building new lines, it also counters the perverse incentive which rewards utilities more for spending more on capital improvements, not for finding and implementing the most cost-effective option.

I urge you to support HB 3336.

Respectfully,

Michael Mitton
MCAT (Mobilizing Climate Action Together)