

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair B. Levy, and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment,

I am writing on behalf of the Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter in support of HB 3628 which would establish a State Transmission Authority and a Tribal Advisory Council on Electric Transmission, key steps toward a Just Transition to Clean Energy.

Electricity demand in Oregon is projected to increase substantially over the next decade, requiring an expansion of our state's electric transmission grid. One of the key recommendations in the <u>Oregon Clean Technology Task Force Report</u> is the establishment of a State Transmission Authority. A State Transmission Authority would support the expansion of transmission capability in the state by identifying key transmission corridors, working with public and private investors, issuing low-cost revenue bonds, and coordinating the implementation of grid enhancement technologies. The establishment of the Tribal Advisory Council would help ensure that environmental and climate justice concerns are addressed during this process.

We need rapid improvements to our electric transmission system to support increased demand from data centers, industry, and the transition to clean energy. In the absence of a regional transmission authority in the Pacific Northwest, a state transmission authority is urgently needed to facilitate upgrading the state's electric transmission system to insure reliability and affordability and to meet Oregon's clean energy goals. Please join us in supporting HB 3336.

Thank you,

Amanda Duncan
Co-chair of the Legislative Committee
Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

About The Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

The Climate Reality Project (CRP) Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led chapter of The Climate Reality Project, an international nonprofit of 5 million members led by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze global solutions to the climate crisis. Our legislative committee bases its advocacy on CRP's 5 pillars: a just transition to clean energy, zero carbon transportation, climate justice and public health, green communities, and a fair, representative democracy. climaterealitypdx.com/, www.climaterealityproject.org