

February 27, 2025

To: House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Re: **Support for HB 3450 on CEI Hub energy storage transition planning**

Dear Chair Tran, Vice-Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Lewis and members of the committee

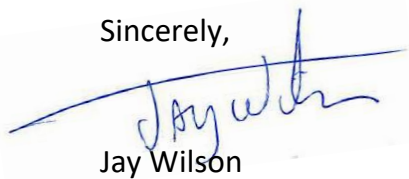
For the record, Sunday, January 26, was the 325th anniversary of the last Great M9.0 earthquake to strike Oregon in 1700. For the State of Oregon, the CEI Hub constitutes what is known as a “wicked problem,” because there is so little cross-threading of the authorities and policies involved for addressing seismic risk, energy security, climate change, and environmental justice. These policies and programs operate in tall hardened silos.

For me, HB 3450 is the most critical Bill for passage because how can we act on any single aspect of the CEI Hub, like climate change or seismic safety, if we don’t have a long-term vision for where we are going. Do we want these relic tanks retrofitted in-place or new ones that are in safer places and designed for the green energy future. Would we rebuild all over again in the same locations after the earthquake? If not, then we should start transitioning out of this high-risk disaster zone and lead with updated bulk oil storage goals that are aligned with the State’s 2035 and 2050 climate polices, along with a visioning process that is inclusive and collaborative. Who knows, this work in Oregon could become a national model for tackling wicked problems.

As a former Chair of the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission and a local emergency manager, I support HB 3450 and urge you to pass this bill for our children and our grandchildren.

Thank you for your leadership and service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Wilson", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Jay Wilson

Resident of the City of Portland and Multnomah County