

Date: February 25 2025

To: House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment

Subject: Support for HB 3336 & HB 3628

Dear Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Levy, and members of the committee:

My name is Greer Klepacki, and I am the Policy & Advocacy Manager with Community Energy Project (CEP), where we serve clients on the front lines of climate change including low-income, seniors and people with disabilities. CEP offers environmental and energy education, weatherization supplies, direct home repairs, and full energy retrofits, all at no cost to our community members. CEP also serves as the Low-Income Facilitator for the Oregon Community Solar Program.

To meet Oregon's 100% clean electricity mandate, serve our growing economy, and create resiliency on our grid, Oregon must address our transmission bottleneck. We need transmission solutions that protect ratepayers and keep Oregon's electricity system resilient, reliable, and affordable.

Today we are submitting testimony in support of HB 3336 and HB 3628. Both of these bills help to expand and modernize Oregon's transmission capacity, as well as help meet growing energy demands, increase resilience to severe weather events, and deliver the benefits of new renewable generation sources to ratepayers.

We urge your support on the following policies to bolster transmission capacity and reliability and affordably deliver clean energy to Oregonians:

Grid Enhancing Technologies (HB 3336): Expands transmission capacity by requiring utilities to deploy cost-effective technologies to existing infrastructure.

Oregon Transmission Authority (HB 3628): Addresses permitting and investment gaps of transmission buildout by establishing a Transmission Authority to support innovative financing and coordinated planning.

Together, these policies will help meet growing energy demands without compromising affordability for Oregonians. We respectfully urge your support on HB 3336 and HB 3628.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Greer Klepacki

Policy & Advocacy Manager for Community Energy Project