



February 26, 2025

Oregon State Legislature
House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 3336, Relating to electric transmission systems

Dear Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the more than 55,000 members and supporters of the Sierra Club Oregon Chapter, we write in support of House Bill 3336, relating to Grid Enhancing Technologies.

Grid Enhancing Technologies (GETs) include a variety of hardware and software approaches to maximize the effectiveness of the electric transmission system, which is a key element of meeting our renewable energy goals. Complicated financial incentives for electric utilities can lead them to delay adopting these proven strategies, which is why it is important that we pass this bill to direct utilities to accelerate the adoption of cost effective GETs that will result in lower overall utility rates and improve safety and reliability. Investing in GETs is a crucial step toward a more efficient, reliable, and resilient electric grid for Oregon.

By optimizing the use of existing infrastructure, GETs improve energy efficiency, reducing electricity congestion and transmission losses, which ultimately lowers costs for consumers over time. A more modern, reliable grid will also drive economic growth while reducing impacts on our environment and wildlife from the construction of new transmission lines. Additionally, as severe weather events such as snowstorms and wildfires become more frequent and intense due to climate change, hardening the grid will reduce outages and more reliably ensure a stable power supply for homes and communities. To meet Oregon's clean energy goals, the current grid must be updated and modernized to integrate more renewable energy sources, improve transmission capacity, and increase access to our most energy vulnerable communities.

Implementing GETs now will help Oregon transition to a cleaner, more affordable, and more reliable energy system. We appreciate the sponsors of this bill for working for years and bringing together many stakeholders in workgroups to get input, which has resulted in a thoughtfully crafted bill. We urge support for this legislation and look forward to the positive impacts it will have for our state.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Bowes, Policy Strategist

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Bowes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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