



House Committee on Climate, Energy and the Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem Oregon 97301

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

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for HB 3628. My name is Kerry Meade and I am the Executive Director of Building Potential, a nonprofit trade association of the building efficiency and decarbonization industry.

We support HB 3628 and the creation of the Oregon Electric Transmission Authority. We see this as a critical step toward expanding and modernizing Oregon's electric grid, an urgent need. Transmission infrastructure plays a key role in ensuring a reliable and affordable clean energy future. A well-planned transmission system will help Oregon meet its decarbonization goals while maintaining grid resilience and providing market access for clean energy resources. We urge you to move this bill forward.

However, we see a missed opportunity to meaningfully include distributed energy resource (DER) expertise within the OETA Board's stakeholder representation. DERs are playing an increasingly crucial role in balancing the grid, reducing peak demand, and deferring costly infrastructure investments. By integrating DERs into transmission planning, Oregon can maximize the efficiency of its grid investments and avoid unnecessary costs to ratepayers.

We recommend adding a board member with DER development expertise—such as an expert in customer-side energy solutions—to ensure the Authority fully leverages both centralized and distributed resources in its planning.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kerry Meade

Executive Director  
Building Potential