

Submitter: John Bartley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3546

March 1, 2025

To the Hon. Representatives Marsh, Owens, Grayber, Chotzen, Hudson, and McDonald, and Senator Sollman:

I write you to speak in favor of HB 3546, the Protecting Oregonians With Energy Responsibility (POWER) Act.

Data center and cryptocurrency mining power demand has grown by more than 183 times what it was 11 years ago, and those heavy power users should pay for that radical growth, not residential users.

But, since 2021, PGE households' bills have increased by nearly 50%. Residential power costs 7.63/kWh more since 2014, but data center & crypto power only costs 2.08/kWh more over that same period. Why do they get such a heavy discount, when their growth costs so much more?

Data centers hire very few people, create very few permanent jobs, and they should pull their weight economically.

I like the idea of data centers and cryptocurrency shops paying their own fair share, and they should be required, if they use more than 20MW, to pay to get connected to the grid and pay extra if they overuse power.

I worked at Intel, and understand how important it is to have adequate power for manufacturing and high tech, but data centers and crypto should not get a free ride.

With respect, I request you please work for HB 3546 and vote for it.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Bartley, III
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Tualatin, Oregon

Views expressed are my own.

CC: Sen. Wagner, Rep. Walters