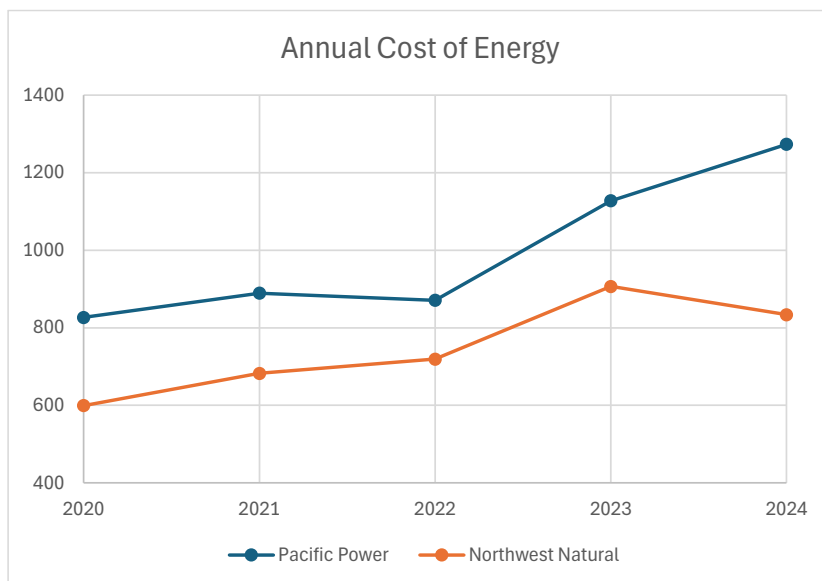


## SB 88 Testimony, 3/1/25

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Robert Waterhouse, and I live in Lebanon, Oregon. I am writing because I own a home and a commercial building, and I have seen firsthand how my utility bills have increased over the last five years at a rate that far exceeds inflation in the rest of the economy. I support SB 88 to make sure that advertising, legal, and lobbyist fees come out of company profits, not adding to what ratepayers like me have to pay.

My wife and I live in a moderately-sized home, just 1700 square feet, and have always been frugal with our energy use: 68°F in the winter and no air conditioning in the summer. Yet our energy bills from 2020 through 2024 increased 54% for Pacific Power and 39% for Northwest Natural. The change in CPI over this period was far less, at 22%. And more increases are on the way!



I think that it is outrageous that these for-profit, corporate utilities can charge customers for their lobbyists, lawyers, advertising, and membership fees to big industry associations. This money would be far better spent on developing renewable sources of energy and energy storage, for which I would gladly contribute.

I urge you, strongly, to support SB 88 and reduce the burden on the average ratepayer.

Sincerely,

Robert Waterhouse

Lebanon, Oregon