

Submitter: Teresa Mueller

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3546

My experience as an Oregon consumer of energy is that my efforts to conserve do not always result in lower bills. It would be great if the state could encourage us to do our part with a reward of slightly lower bills. But with the rise of energy sucking big data centers, our utilities have to invest more, and though we consumers have not asked for these industries, we are sponsoring part of their enormous cost. Please recognize "the little guy"--families and small businesses that struggle with bills and are helping pay for for-profit data centers' operation costs without compensation or dividends of our own.

We look to our government to keep things fair. HB 3546 will hold the real users of energy accountable, and use fines and other pressure to make sure they continue to pay their fair share. Are these industries telling you that the people demand what the data centers supply? Well, tell that to people who've had to turn off their electricity due to bills that cannot be paid on the wages they earn. Let investors and corporate owners do the investing and reap the rewards, but don't push the costs on the citizens of our state. And while we're at it, make sure they run as efficiently as possible to spare us the effects of over consumption of resources. We've heard about what has happened with data centers elsewhere. Don't let another corporate entity rip us off. We've had it with that!