

My name is Paulette Bierzychudek and I am an Oregon resident from House district 41. I write to offer my strong support for HB 3681, Electric Transmission Permitting.

The climate crisis is real; it threatens the health and welfare of all Oregonians and of the natural world on which our survival depends. As we continue to electrify in order to reduce our use of climate-damaging fossil fuels, the demand for electrical power is rapidly increasing. The creation of new infrastructure is often delayed by outdated, overly-complex, or redundant requirements for permitting the construction of new energy transmission lines. HB 3681, part of a package of reforms (also including HB 3336 and HB 3628) that are the culmination of 18 months of committee work, would update these regulations in a number of ways, speeding the permitting process while still safeguarding the environment from serious impacts. Passage of this bill will help assure that Oregon citizens and businesses are protected from future power shortages. For these reasons, I urge your support of HB 3681.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Paulette Bierzychudek
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