

Submitter: Lisa Cohn
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3681

Dear Committee members,

HB 3681 rounds out the essential policies and tools brought forward in this session's special transmission package including HB 3336 – Grid Enhancing Technologies and HB 3628 – Oregon Electric Transmission Authority. All 3 bills are essential to keep Oregonians safe from power crises in the years to come.

I'm a writer who specializes in energy issues. The move to electrification and the need for new data centers is expected to quickly and significantly increase demand for electricity.

We need to respond as quickly as possible with strategies for deploying renewable energy, especially solar, which is the least expensive way to meet demand in many regions right now.

Without these important changes to improve and speed transmission infrastructure, Oregon's energy delivery will not be able to fulfill consumer and business needs. Now is the time to get this done!

HB 3681 is an important step forward to improve energy reliability in both the near and longer term for all Oregonians.

HB 3681 speeds and simplifies outdated rules that delay and prevent new energy transmission creation in Oregon. With the exponentially increasing demand for energy that development and AI technology are loading on existing energy systems we need speedy improvement to prevent system failure.

Thanks for reading.

Best,

Lisa Cohn