March 13, 2025

Position on Bills at 2025 Session of Oregon Legislature:

HB 3609: Support



The Oregon Progressive Party supports HB 3609, which would basically require the private utilities allow people to get value from providing load balancing and backup services to the utility by means of decentralized, small-scale energy systems that are installed near the energy consumer. These systems are called distributed energy resources and commonly include solar panels, small wind turbines, electric vehicles, and energy storage systems such as batteries.

These arrangements are not widely available to consumers, because the voluntary utility programs are just small pilots with small scale.

One very interesting alternative is using an electric vehicle (with a charged battery) as backup for home power or even to feed into the grid in times of high demand. I am told that a Ford F150 can power an average house for 3 days by itself.

Oregon Progressive Party

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