

April 2, 2025

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment Oregon State Capitol 900 Court St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Opposition to SB 1034 EFSC Determination

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Brock Smith, and members of the committee:

The Northwest & Intermountain Power Producers Coalition ("NIPPC") is a membership organization advocating on behalf of competitive power market participants. NIPPC members build power plants, operate them, and sell power to utilities (to help meet the needs of their retail customers) or directly to large energy consumers. NIPPC members are behind much of the new clean energy projects in the Northwest and has engaged in Oregon's energy policy discussions over the last two decades.

NIPPC opposes SB 1034 because it would add an unnecessary step in the state process that would bog down Energy Facilities Siting Council ("EFSC") permitting and hamper new generation development in Oregon. After reviewing the state permitting process with broad stakeholder participation, this Legislature took deliberate action in 2023 to improve the state permitting process and established a streamlined pathway for new state permitting. SB 1034 would impose a new requirement to obtain county signoff, which would undo that progress, result in increased workload for the various county offices impacted, exacerbate permitting uncertainty for proposed projects, and increase overall costs.

Thank you for considering our comments.

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