



April 30, 2025

Chair Janeen Sollman
Vice-Chair David Brock Smith
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

On behalf of the LOC, we support House Bill 3546A – the Power Act. The LOC represents 241 diverse and unique cities across Oregon who voted as an LOC priority to support actions to maintain affordable and reliable energy resources and build resilient communities.

Cities support many high energy producers like data centers. They are economic drivers for our communities and bring many jobs through construction, and permanent jobs once the facilities are built. In many cases, cities provide incentives to encourage these companies to move to our region and in return, those tax dollars flow back to our communities in time, bringing much needed revenue for our communities and economic growth.

We support HB 3546, not because we don't support these businesses - we do. But because we believe that the extra demand and costs associated with them should not be borne by Oregon residential customers and our small businesses.

In fact, the basis of HB 3546 is based on the tools that are already available to protect residential customers in Consumer Owned Utility (COU) territory. COUs already have that ability to ensure that large energy producers bear the increased costs associated with their high energy consumption to reduce the financial impact for residential customers.

We believe those tools should be available across Oregon.

HB 3546 provides the PUC with the authority to classify the service of large energy producers, assign costs to service those facilities, and mitigate the risks to other classes of retail electricity consumers. We think this is a fair approach while still ensuring that we have the capability to attract these companies to Oregon and our cities.

This approach has not slowed the growth of data centers in COU territory, and we don't expect it to slow the growth in IOU territory.

Oregonians have been clear that we need to address rising utility rates. LOC members also voted to address rising utility rates as one of our top priorities. HB 3546 will go a long way towards meeting this goal.

The LOC strongly urges this committee to support and pass HB 3546A so that we can deliver sound tools for the PUC to provide much needed balance. Thank you for your time and your consideration of HB 3546A.

Sincerely,

Nolan Pleše
Lobbyist, League of Oregon Cities (LOC)

