

April 30, 2025 RE: HB 3546A

Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment;

As representatives of contractors and thousands of working men and women in the construction industry, we are writing to express concern about the potential impacts HB 3546A on the development of Data Centers in Oregon.

Through industry partnerships, we have developed safe, high quality apprenticeship programs that train Oregon's workforce to build the infrastructure that the state needs. Our workers earn family wages and benefits, and construct and maintain the high-quality projects that Oregonian's enjoy. These facilities, especially in rural communities, have continued to provide jobs across the state which benefits our local communities and local workforce development.

We understand the need for conversation and new policy initiatives to address utility rates and energy reliability in Oregon. We support having those conversations. At the same time, we want to make sure these data center and related projects continue to be built in Oregon, expand and provide jobs and opportunity for our communities.

Our industry partners have noted some concern around how the bill may add broad risk considerations going forward that could impact development and expansion. We ask that the adjustments to the bill that our partners have flagged be taken into consideration, and hope that labor and our signatory contractors will be included in policy development conversations around our industry.

We appreciate the work the committee and stakeholders are doing, and hope that while we continue these conversations, we ensure that our industry partners continue to grow in throughout Oregon.