



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

May 7, 2025

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-chair Brock Smith and members of the committee,

The Oregon Solar + Storage Industries Association (OSSIA) is a trade association founded in 1981 to promote clean, renewable, solar technologies. OSSIA members include businesses, non-profits, and other solar and storage stakeholders. We provide a unified voice of the solar industry and focus exclusively on the solar and storage value chains; from workforce development to permitting, advocacy, policy, and regulation for manufacturing, residential, commercial, community, and utility scale solar and storage projects on the local, state, and regional level.

OSSIA supports HB 3681 A, a bill to streamline renewables siting at the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC). In particular, OSSIA supports the new timeline of one year for EFSC to complete a contested case. A contested case arises after the public hearings and proposed order, which usually last several years. Without a timeline on this final piece of approval, projects are delayed, pushing the clean energy, economic development, and resilience benefits out to a later date.

In addition, HB 3681 A includes common sense provisions for minor amendments or construction delays to projects the Council has already approved. It can be challenging to estimate construction dates, due to supply chain issues, interconnection issues, labor shortages, and other issues. Currently, construction delays mean an applicant must go through a long and costly process to request an amendment. Experts must be rehired to confirm their previous findings, even though nothing has changed. This additional cost provides no public benefit.

OSSIA urges this committee to support HB 3681 A to accelerate clean energy and the economic development benefits it brings.

Sincerely,

Angela Crowley-Koch
Executive Director