

**Testimony to the Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
re: HB 3336**

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**Ben Brint, Senior Climate Program Director
Oregon Environmental Council**

Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance equitable, innovative, and collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Re: Oregon Environmental Council support for HB 3336

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 3336. My name is Ben Brint and I am a Senior Climate Program Manager at Oregon Environmental Council. OEC is a nearly 60-year-old nonpartisan nonprofit representing thousands of members who support environmentally sound decarbonization in our great state.

Oregon faces a critical transmission bottleneck as we work to meet our HB 2021 clean electricity mandate. As already mentioned by our panel, Grid Enhancing Technologies—or GETs—represent the low-hanging fruit in addressing this challenge.

GETs offer three key advantages over new transmission lines:

First, they're cost-effective, optimizing existing infrastructure at a fraction of the cost of new lines, protecting ratepayers while delivering immediate benefits.

Second, they have minimal environmental impact, working within existing corridors rather than requiring new land acquisition.

Third and most importantly, GETs can be deployed rapidly—in months versus the decade needed for new transmission lines—crucial for meeting our clean energy timeline.

HB 3336 accomplishes two vital objectives:

It requires utilities to report on GETs opportunities with their integrated resource plans, creating transparency around where these investments should be made.

Additionally, the -2 amendment establishes a streamlined permitting process to accelerate GETs installations while maintaining appropriate oversight. We look forward to reviewing the forthcoming -3 amendment.

In summary: GETs represent the fastest, most cost-effective, and least disruptive path to expanding our transmission capacity. This legislation prioritizes these technologies and expedites their deployment. I respectfully urge your support of HB 3336. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ben Brint
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