

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

I am writing on behalf of the Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter in support of HB 3336, which would require electric utilities to develop a strategic plan for using grid enhancing technologies (GETs), and its -2 amendment. GETs are a key step toward a Just Transition to Clean Energy, and facilitate energy affordability and reliability. The -2 amendment provides additional clarity for the implementation of the bill including that utilities make their strategic plan for using GETs "concurrent with the development of each integrated resource plan."

Electricity demand in Oregon is projected to increase substantially over the next decade, requiring significant improvements in the state's transmission grid. Adding new lines to support the demand is expensive and involves siting and permitting challenges.

GETs solve part of that problem with hardware and software innovations that increase the transmission system's efficiency, capacity, and reliability. They are excellent, cost-effective ways of increasing transmission capacity quickly. Promoting the use of GETs is one of the key recommendations in the <u>Oregon Clean Technology Task Force Report</u>.

By facilitating modernization of Oregon's transmission capacity, HB 3336 will help meet growing energy demands, increase resilience to severe weather events, and deliver the benefits of new renewable generation sources to ratepayers. We respectfully urge your support on HB 3336 and the -2 amendment.

Thank you,

Helena Birecki interim Chair, Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

## About The Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

The Climate Reality Project (CRP) Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led chapter of The Climate Reality Project, an international nonprofit of 5 million members led by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze global solutions to the climate crisis. Our legislative committee bases its advocacy on CRP's 5 pillars: a just transition to clean energy, zero carbon transportation, climate justice and public health, green communities, and a fair, representative democracy. climaterealitypdx.com/, www.climaterealityproject.org