

Submitter: Andrew Simrin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1582

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Smith, and Members of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support the Community-Based Power bill (SB 1582).

We know that demand response and load shifting can create a more resilient and affordable power system.

I am a homeowner and ratepayer to a ratepayer owned utility, and we are looking into demand response and Virtual Power Plants with smart-meter technology.

Virtual or Distributed Power Plants (VPP or DPP) can save money for customers, improve grid reliability, and create jobs across the state to build out the VPP systems.

VPPs utilize technologies that are available now—without long lead times for permitting or construction—to use distributed resources like electric vehicles, smart thermostats, rooftop solar, and battery storage to balance energy supply and demand. VPPs can reduce peak loads where energy costs are the highest and incentivize utility customers' local generation of clean energy and use of energy balancing devices, which both help the grid and increase customer self-sufficiency.

Energy demand and costs are rising rapidly. Virtual Power Plants can play a critical role in addressing these problems right away. SB 1582 is needed to scale and standardize VPP programs to make them effective and widely available. Please help secure Oregon's energy future and vote "yes" on SB 1582.

Thank you,