



Clean water. Healthy rivers.

Sunday, Mar 1, 2026

To: Co-chairs Senator Girod and Representative Nosse, and members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

Re: Testimony opposing HB 4084

Columbia Riverkeeper is a 25 year old organization with a mission to protect and restore the water quality of the Columbia River from the headwaters to the ocean and all life connected to it. We represent more than 25,000 members, including 10,000 Oregonians.

Columbia Riverkeeper is concerned that HB 4084 as currently written will allow data centers to continue to take advantage of enterprise zones to overbuild in our state.

Explosive Growth of Data Centers harms our climate, water, and communities.

Data centers are the [largest source of expected new electricity demand in the Pacific Northwest, with the greatest impact over the next few years](#). This massive energy demand adds challenges to achieving our climate and clean energy goals, keeping the lights on, and ensuring affordable utility bills. And data centers aren't just hungry for power; they consume [a huge amount of water](#) as well, presenting risks to salmon recovery, clean water, and healthy rivers. We should not be extending tax breaks to data centers. For more information on the harms of data center proliferation, please see Columbia Riverkeeper's recent publications: [Data Centers Background Brief](#), and [A Closer Look: Columbia River Data Centers](#).

Allowing big tech's data centers to participate in enterprise zones for tax abatements hurts

Oregon's students. According to a [report from Good Jobs First](#), Morrow School District 1, with a 59% Hispanic student population, lost more than \$10,000 per pupil in 2024 due to the massive tax abatements given to Amazon through the enterprise zone program. They report that Amazon received an estimated \$1 billion in tax abatements for data centers in Morrow County in 2023. Our students suffer while the wealthiest corporations in the world rake in money from our tax abatements. This is not right.

HOOD RIVER OFFICE
P.O. Box 950
Hood River, OR 97031
(541) 387-3030

PORTLAND OFFICE
1125 SE Madison St, 103A
Portland, OR 97214
(503) 432-8927

Columbiariverkeeper.org
info@columbiariverkeeper.org



We urge that HB 4084 be amended to clarify that data centers are not eligible for enterprise zones or tax abatement programs included in this bill.

Thank you for your consideration and your work on behalf of Oregonians.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelly Campbell
Policy Director, Columbia Riverkeeper