

Mission: To enhance the region's economy and quality of life by providing efficient cargo and air passenger access to national and global markets.



June 1, 2021

Kacia Brockman
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Oregon Public Utility Commission
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**Subject: Port of Portland Comments Regarding Oregon Public Utility Commission
Community Solar Program**

Dear Kacia and Sarah,

Climate change is one of the most important challenges of our time. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), unprecedented reductions in greenhouse gases are needed to avoid catastrophic climate impacts, requiring rapid and far reaching transitions in energy, transportation and industry.

The Port plays a leadership role in regional transportation, which by nature is resource intensive traditionally due to its reliance on fossil fuel combustion which produces greenhouse gases (GHGs) and other air pollutants. While many sources of fossil fuel combustion are transitioning to electric, it's essential to increase sources of renewable power in chorus to meet the increasing electrical demand and truly reduce carbon emissions. Today, the carbon emissions associated with utility-provided electricity serving much of Oregon, including Port facilities, is significant. Because of this, we are working diligently on strategies for continued investment in energy efficiency, planned electrification, and sourcing renewable electricity both on and off-site to lower carbon

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emissions at Portland International Airport (PDX) by 80% below 1990 levels by 2040. Even with these long-term goals in mind, we understand there is greater impact in action taken today rather than in the future in mitigating the devastating effects of climate change.

The Port commends the PUC's Community Solar Program in successfully breaking down barriers to greater development and access of renewable energy in our state. The program has been thoughtfully designed to offer multiple areas of value to our communities and environment. The Port has a community solar project underway in partnership with Bonneville Environmental Foundation on PDX property, referred to as the Goodling Annex. The Port is looking forward to the fruition of this project to help provide clean energy to PDX and surrounding neighborhood residents and businesses.

In addition to the Goodling Annex, the Port was made aware of the opportunity to support additional community solar projects through subscription with Oregon Shines. Unfortunately, although on the waitlist, we missed the opportunity to subscribe to available community solar projects serving PacifiCorp territory in the first tier. However, we greatly look forward to supporting future projects.

To this end, we would like to voice our strong support of the continuation of the Community Solar Program, helping to rapidly increase access to renewable energy within our state.

As we move to mitigate climate change as quickly as we can, we need all available strategies to support moving away from fossil fuels with accessible, carbon-free electricity, and we see the PUC's Community Solar Program as especially impactful. We look forward to hearing about the future of community solar in Oregon from you soon.

Sincerely

Port of Portland

David J Breen

David Breen

Manager, Environmental Air Quality, Energy, and Aviation Noise

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