



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Public Utility Commission

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January 22, 2021

UM 1930 Stakeholders,



In 2020, the Program Administrator for the Oregon Community Solar Program (CSP) selected an engineering consultant through competitive bid to offer independent, third-party review of utility interconnection studies to Project Managers seeking assistance. In addition to assisting Project Managers, the review services are expected to provide the Commission with insights that may inform improvements to the CSP interconnection process and longer-term interconnection reform efforts.

To date, the consultant has performed only one interconnection review for a Project Manager, resulting in a lack of insight into current interconnection processes. In the case that few reviews are requested by Project Managers, [Commission Order No. 20-185](#) allows the Commission to request that the consultant review a sample of CSP project interconnection studies in order to collect insights.

Therefore, Staff proposes to recommend that the Commission authorize the Program Administrator to hire the consultant to review a sample of publicly available interconnection studies that utilities have performed for CSP projects. The review would include the type and cost of upgrades required by the utilities. The Program Administrator would use funds already allocated for interconnection review services that remain unspent. At least \$25,000 would remain available to support Project Managers who request review services in the future.

Staff asks stakeholders to please email any objections or comments on this proposal to filingcenter@puc.state.or.us by February 5, 2021.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your ongoing engagement in the CSP.

Sincerely,

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