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To: [PUC PUC.FilingCenter * PUC](#)
Cc: [Rep Levy](#); [Sen Hansell](#); kristen.sheeran@oregon.gov; [Rep Smith G](#)
Subject: AR 626 – Certificate of Public Convince and Necessity
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022 1:01:40 PM

Dear OPUC planners and legislatures,

It has come to my attention that there are plans today to change existing regulations to the granting of eminent domain to applicants for utility related development.

The current plans were put in place for GOOD REASON: to protect Oregonians from faulty plans that impact the the farms, forests, and open spaces and ultimately the quality of life for our citizens. It should be a legislative proceeding that determines the right to override the regulations for eminent domain....not a commission of appointed officials.

Here in Eastern Oregon citizens are angry with actions taken by commissions acting against the will of the people. It is WRONG to have this proposed changed policy that allows our land to be taken for utility permits without serious consideration of issues related to the impacts of development on our: health, property values, environmental impact, and quality of life for residents. It is UNJUST to put the onus on property owners (citizens) to spend excessive fees in litigation to challenge large corporations to consider impacts of their development plans.

I ask you to Stop this biased plan to favor big business over the rights of citizens and the need for a careful evaluation of impacts to development. Stay with existing regulations to save Oregonians from big corporations that may be ready to implement business plans not in the best interests of our communities.

Respectfully,
Cathy Webb
La Grande OR