

To: Oregon Public Utility Commission Members

Date: July 12, 2022

Comments regarding UM 2178—Supplemental Comments

INTRODUCTION: The focus needs to be on reducing the need for both natural gas and electricity. The man who spoke about the value of conservation needs to move to the head of the line. Rather than subsidizing wind, solar or natural gas, subsidies should all be going to placing heat pumps, low energy appliances, insulation and insulated windows, rooftop solar on all residences in the state. Currently there is an increased risk of blackouts and problems with the grid being exasperated due to the efforts to incorporate more wind and solar energy.

Acting like requiring people to use electricity from the transmission infrastructure which currently only has about 70% renewables ignores the realities that adding additional renewables will not come from hydropower which currently provides approximately 50% of Oregon's renewable energy.

Increasing the numbers of wind and solar developments in Oregon ignores the financial, environmental, social and wildlife damages occurring.

Financial costs ignore the fact that customers are paying for the development of wind and solar farms, taxpayers are paying for the subsidies to these developments, customers and taxpayers are now facing the additional costs due to replacement of wind development blades and motors after only 9 years when they were promised to last for 25 years when originally approved (State Line Wind development). Consumers are paying for the disposal of non-recyclable blades. Citizens are paying for the high voltage transmission lines being built to transport wind and solar energy as well as the 7% profit being provided to the developers.

Pollution created by the manufacture of wind, solar and transmission materials is also being ignored.

Citizens are increasingly opposed to wind, solar and infrastructure supporting them. A statement in an article regarding Idaho resistance stated: "opposition is intense, the greatest resistance to government policy since the Sagebrush Rebellion".

The focus of the Oregon Public Utility Commission needs to not focus on the production of destructive wind, solar and transmission infrastructure.

CLOSING:

The focus needs to be on reducing the need for both natural gas and electricity. The man who spoke about the value of conservation needs to move to the head of the line. Rather than subsidizing wind, solar or natural gas, subsidies should all be going to placing heat pumps, low energy appliances, insulation and insulated windows, rooftop solar on all residences in the state.