



**Portland General Electric**  
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Chair Pam Marsh  
House Climate, Environment, and Environment Committee  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: PGE Comments on HB 3459

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 3459 on behalf of Portland General Electric. PGE is a fully integrated electric utility that serves over 900,000 customers with a service area population of 2 million Oregonians in seven counties and 51 incorporated cities.

Following a multi-year process with utilities and advocates, the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) adopted revisions to the [Division 21 Rules in September 2022](#) that address utility disconnections and strengthen protections for low-income energy customers. The rule updates include a moratorium on the disconnection of residential service for nonpayment from November through March on any day a temperature of less than 32 degrees is forecasted, or a winter storm warning indicating weather conditions that pose a threat to life or property, or any day with a local heat advisory, or when the Air Quality Index is at or above 100. Utilities are also prohibited from disconnecting residential service if a customer submits certification that disconnection would significantly endanger the physical health of the customer or a member of the customer's household. Rules also include the waiving late fees for low-income customers and extended timelines for notices.

Given the robust work at the OPUC, PGE does not support the introduced version of HB 3459. However, we appreciate the work of Rep Hartman's office in crafting the -4 Amendment and forthcoming -5 Amendment, which replace the introduced language with an extension of low-income energy assistance dollars. We support this extension and encourage the committee to move the HB 3459 with the -5 Amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sania Radcliffe".

Sania Radcliffe  
Director of Government Affairs and Environmental Policy