

Submitter: Sidney Villanueva
On Behalf Of: NIPPC
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1034

Good afternoon Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, Members of the Committee

For the record, my name is Sidney Villanueva. I am here on behalf of NIPPC the Northwest & Intermountain Power Producers Coalition to respectfully oppose SB 1034.

NIPPC is a membership association that represents competitive power participants throughout the Pacific Northwest. NIPPC members build power plants, operate them, and sell power to utilities (to help them meet the needs of their retail customers) and also directly to large energy consumers. NIPPC members are behind much of the new clean energy projects in the Northwest, and has been engaged in Oregon's energy policy discussions over the last two decades.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 1034.

At a very high level, NIPPC is concerned about imbedding county requirements into FSEC's process because they are subject to constant revisions in processes that are difficult for developers to understand and/or monitor, which makes them inherently unclear and overly burdensome at the statewide level. This is especially true for projects in multiple counties.

We often hear about the need to speed up the EFSC process, unfortunately this bill would do the exact opposite.

As a reminder, most energy facilities use permits at the city or county level due to EFSC's limited jurisdiction—EFSC only reviews very large facilities (over 25 MW). This legislature intentionally created a more streamlined state permitting to make applications move faster, and this bill undermines that effort.

Simply put, county requirements make sense for county permits and the state requirements make sense for state permitting.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.