

# Expanding Critical Tools to Maintain Grid Reliability

Support SB 1525A

## Expanding a tool for grid reliability:

To support grid reliability, PGE operates a dispatchable standby generation (DSG) program where enrolled, non-residential customer-owned backup generators are available to PGE for up to 50 hours per year to help maintain grid reliability in accordance with EPA rules and DEQ permits.

We are working to enroll more backup generators in this program to help support grid reliability during extreme events. Backup generators are currently exempt from needing a site certificate from the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) even if they are large enough to trigger EFSC jurisdiction (>25MW), unless they are capable of being interconnected to the grid (ORS 469.320). The site certificate process only applies if the generators are to be interconnected to the grid, and that's why this fix is needed.

Removing this statutory barrier expands a tool to help PGE avoid power outages in the first place. Regardless of this legislation, businesses will install

backup generators because of their need for very high reliability; this bill allows PGE to partner with our larger customers to enroll and access these backup generators at large sites on a limited basis under federal and state regulations when they can most support the grid.

## SB 1525A, Sections 9-11:

- Extend current EFSC exemption to include grid-connected backup generators that support grid reliability, allowing their use to support the grid if they run on renewable fuels and comply with EPA rules.
- Require that generators at large sites enrolled in the DSG program enabled by this bill be fueled by renewable fuels such as R99 renewable diesel, renewable natural gas, or renewable hydrogen.
- Require that utilities operating a DSG program regularly report to the Oregon Department of Energy on the scope of the program.

**SB 1525A will allow PGE to partner with large customers to use their backup generators to maintain grid reliability during extreme events.**

## PGE is focused on delivering clean, reliable, affordable electricity:

As PGE and the region transition to clean resources, and as climate-fueled extremes become more common, PGE's dispatchable standby generation program plays a critical reliability role. This program calls on both backup generators and batteries, and is just one part of PGE's work to provide reliable, affordable, and clean electricity:

- ✓ Announced **475 MW of utility-scale batteries and 311 MW of renewable resources** in 2023
- ✓ Next major **clean resource procurement** process underway
- ✓ Opening RFP for **Community-Based Renewable Resources** this year
- ✓ Partnering with our customers to utilize **distributed resources like solar and batteries**

