Oregon
Tina Kotek, Governor

Public Utility Commission
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September 23, 2025

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission Stakeholders,

I am pleased to share Staff's 2025 legislative implementation plans with you. The 2025 session saw an unprecedented amount of legislation with new directives for the Public Utility Commission (PUC) and we have been working quickly to plan to meet new legislative requirements and deadlines.

We have created two documents to share key details of Staff's approach to legislative implementation which are now available on the PUC website and attached for convenience:

- A narrative table with detailed information and plans to meet each new requirement, including identifying staff leads for major workstreams.
- A visual overview illustrating planned timelines for new and ongoing dockets related to each bill.

Staff leads will begin opening dockets shortly and are the best point of contact for questions on specific planned actions and how to get involved. If you would like to receive updates when a specific docket opens, please contact the staff lead. Directions on how to sign up for general notification lists and to receive notifications on existing dockets are on the PUC website.

We recognize that the increased workload and increased docket activity at the PUC due to 2025 legislation will increase demands on already limited capacity in our stakeholder community. We thank you in advance for your participation in these important processes and will work to balance inclusivity of process with the pace of work required to meet legislative deadlines. Plans may evolve as processes get under way.

Sincerely,

Laura Tabor

Legislative Affairs Director
Oregon Public Utility Commission
laura.tabor@puc.oregon.gov

2025 Legislative Implementation - PUC Staff Work Plan				
Bill	**Requirements**	**2025 Staff Activities**	**2026-2027 Staff Activities**	**Staff Lead**
HB 3179 Fair Act (Rates and Affordability) *Effective: 6/23/25*	• Establish a multi-year rate plan framework (MYP) with an exception process – **Section 7** • Establish a general rate case (GRC) schedule – **Section 7(2)(b)** • 18-month GRC stay out through Jan 2027 **– Section 4,5**	• Hire consulting support for MYP framework and public process • Launch a rulemaking for MYP framework and develop public process • Launch rulemaking to establish a utility rate case schedule and MYP exception process—target completion Q1 2026 • Launch investigation into HB 3179 "Implementation Issues" (UM Docket) and bring expectations for the use of deferrals and other rate recovery filings to Commission at a public meeting	• Conduct phased investigation to establish MYP framework *(Q4 2025 – Q2 2027)* • Monitor stay out and respond as necessary	Luz Mondragon luz.mondragon@puc.oregon.gov
	Prohibition on residential rate increases Nov 1 - March 31 – **Section 3(7)**	• Launch rulemaking to memorialize "HB 3179 Requirements" and codify winter rate increase moratorium that supersedes existing rules and orders with winter increases • Move gas schedules to Oct 31 through purchase gas adjustments (PGAs) • Identify and implement 2025/26 approach to moving rate effective dates for electrics and publish to HB 3179 Implementation Issues investigation	• Develop 2026/27 and 2027/28 approaches through informal staff-led process in HB 3179 Implementation Issues Investigation *(Q1-Q2 2026)* • MYP framework to include long-term plan for GRC and other adjustment schedules	Julie Dyck julie.dyck@puc.oregon.gov
	• Include economic impact analysis in GRC **– Section 2(3)** • Consider rate impact in balancing fair just and reasonable – **Section 2(2)** • Determine if rate increase is fair and may take rate mitigation action – **Section 3(6)**	• Codify GRC economic impact analysis requirement in HB 3179 Requirements rulemaking • Identify expectations for any GRCs filed in HB 3179 Implementation Issues Investigation via staff-led process • Look for opportunities to leverage learnings from EJ SDRs work in UM 2211, which is on hold	• Implement Commission balancing and consideration in rate cases • Address issues if they arise • Consider need for further rulemaking in 2027/28	Julie Dyck julie.dyck@puc.oregon.gov
	• Visualization of cost drivers (annually) – **Section 12** • Require reporting on expected rate increases in the next 12 months (at least annually) **– Section 13**	• Codify reporting requirements and adopt reporting timelines in HB 3179 Requirements rulemaking – Staff propose reports to start at end of 2026	• Identify expectations for content of reports in Q3/Q4 2026 via staff-led process • Consider need for further rulemaking in 2027/28	Julie Dyck julie.dyck@puc.oregon.gov
	Securitization – **Section 9,10**	Review securitization proposal associated with PGE UE 458 and UE 457	Address issues that arise and consider need for rulemaking after 2027	Zoe Zhao zhuoyi.zhao@puc.oregon.gov
	GRC dockets can be 10 months **- Section 8**	Implement as GRCs are filed	Address issues if they arise	N/A
SB 688 Performance Based Ratemaking (PBR) *Effective: 1/1/26*	PUC may investigate, develop, and adopt a PBR framework	Incorporate into MYP framework consulting contract and investigation	• Establish initial performance measures through MYP Framework rulemaking *(Q4 2025 – Q1 2027)* • Address issues as they arise	Luz Mondragon luz.mondragon@puc.oregon.gov

2025 Legislative Implementation - PUC Staff Work Plan				
Bill	**Requirements**	**2025 Staff Activities**	**2026-2027 Staff Activities**	**Staff Lead**
HB 3546 Power Act (Data Centers) *Effective: 6//3/25*	• PUC provide for a new customer class for data centers that meet certain specs, contract terms - **Section 2(2),5** • Commission shall use specified criteria to approve tariff for customer class **– Section 2(3)** • Ability to wait for PUC approval to implement new class expires January 2, 2028 – **Section 3, 4**	• In scope for existing PGE large load investigation UM 2377 *(est. end date Q2 2026)* • Direct PAC and IPC to file to establish rate class on a specified timeline at a Public Meeting • Monitor and address any issues with new PAC or IPC data center customer load requests in the interim	• Review PAC and IPC filings on Commission directed timeline; Staff will recommend a filing after UM 2377 concludes.	Bret Stevens bret.stevens@puc.oregon.gov
	• Report to legislature every even numbered year about load trends and other implications – **Section 7**		Initiate development of first report in Q1 2026	Bret Stevens bret.stevens@puc.oregon.gov
HB 2066 Microgrid Frameworks *Effective: 9/26/25*	• Establish a regulatory framework microgrids and community microgrids by March 2027 – **Section 2(2)-(3)** • PUC approves community microgrid zones – **Section 7**	• Hire consulting support for framework development and public process • Launch rulemaking to develop microgrid frameworks – Commission adopts phasing/scope at a Public Meeting (target end of 2025)	• Conduct phased investigation into framework - focus first on simple microgrid designs by March 2027 *(Q4 2025 – Q1 2027)* • Tariff review to follow rulemaking *(Q2 – Q4 2027)* • Launch subsequent phases to expand framework for other models in 2028 or later	Peter Kernan peter.kernan@puc.oregon.gov
HB 2065 Microgrid Interconnection *Effective: 9/26/25*	• Requires utility to allow third-party consultant to perform interconnection study for microgrid or community microgrid (state jurisdictional only) – **Section 2(2)-(5),(7)-(9)** • Requires the utility to share necessary data for the third-party study – **Section 2(6)**		• Include any rules needed to implement as part of microgrid interconnection framework developed in HB 2066 microgrid framework rulemaking *(Q1 2027)*	Peter Kernan peter.kernan@puc.oregon.gov
HB 3336 Grid Enhancing Technologies (GETs) *Effective: 9/26/25*	• Requires IRPs to include strategic plans for transmission alternatives and grid-enhancing technologies (GETs) – **Section 1(3)-(4)** • Directs the PUC to establish cost-effectiveness criteria for evaluating alternatives and GETs in strategic plan– **Section 1(5)**	• Staff recommends rule codifying IRP requirements in AR 669 IRP/RFP modernization • Open investigation to establish initial expectations for cost effectiveness methodology in time for PGE's 2026 IRP – *targeting end of Jan. 2026*	• Consider need for additional direction or rules in 2027 or later	Sudeshna Pal sudeshna.pal@puc.oregon.gov
HB 3681 Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) *Effective 6/2/25*	• Changes criteria for PUC review of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) – **Section 4** • States that an EFSC site certificate is conclusive evidence that the transmission line is a public use and necessary for public convenience – **Section 5**		• Conduct rulemaking following PCN 8 *(Q2 2026 – Q1 2027)*	John Mellgren john.mellgren@puc.oregon.gov

2025 Legislative Implementation - PUC Staff Work Plan				
Bill	**Requirements**	**2025 Staff Activities**	**2026-2027 Staff Activities**	**Staff Lead**
HB 3863 PURPA Standard Avoided Costs *Effective 9/26/25*	Sets minimum eligibility cap for standard avoided cost pricing for PURPA qualifying facilities at 10 MW	Updates to PUC approved utility documents as needed e.g., tariffs, standard form of contract	Correct administrative rules – leverage any post-UM 2000 rule changes if possible *(Q2 2026-Q4 2026)*	Ryan Bain ryan.bain@puc.oregon.gov
HB 3792 Oregon Energy Bill Assistance Program (OEAP) Funding Increase *Effective 1/1/26*	• Increases the amount collected for the OEAP from $20 million to $40 million, raises cap to $1000 per customer (PacifiCorp and PGE) • PUC reassess the level of community need every 2 years and adjust – report to legislature if adjusting more than 2.5%	Explore options to align with HB 3179 winter moratorium with utilities and CAP agencies e.g., collecting pre or post winter moratorium	Review funding level in 2027 or later	Kate Ayers kate.ayres@puc.oregon.gov
SB 685 Hydrogen blending *Effective 6/2/25*	• Notice requirements prior hydrogen blending increasing in the gas supply above 2.5% for the first time – **Section 2** • Or provide notice of any hydrogen blending by June 2030 – **Section 3**	Consider implementation in safety project plans (Dockets UM 1898-1900)	• Address issues as they arise • Monitor 2030 requirements	TBD
SB 845 *Require water company sale* *Effective 1/1/26*	• Authorizes the PUC to require the sale of an incumbent water utility after a contested case procedure if the Commission finds • Violations that affect the safety and adequacy of its service. • fails to comply within a reasonable time with a commission order regarding service safety and adequacy. • is unable to provide and maintain safe and adequate service. • poses an unreasonable risk to public health or safety. • alternative actions to a sale have been considered but are impractical or economically unfeasible	Rulemaking opened – AR 673 Initial legal scoping of requirements Communication to all water companies encouraging participation in AR 673 Identify any rules that need changing in the near term to address emergency repair fund increase or regency authority	Workshops with utilities and stakeholders to work towards consensus rules	Stephanie Yamada stephanie.yamada@puc.oregon.gov

2025 Legislative Implementation - PUC Staff Work Plan				
Bill	**Requirements**	**2025 Staff Activities**	**2026-2027 Staff Activities**	**Staff Lead**
HB 3156 PUC contact info on bills *Effective 1/1/26*	Requires each public utility to include with each utility bill the phone numbers for the Public Utility Commission's consumer services and website address for the commission's online consumer complaint form	Letter to water companies alerting them of the new requirement	May do minor rulemaking to ensure all bill requirements are in one place.	Melissa Nottingham melissa.nottingham@puc.oregon.gov
HB 3148 Oregon Lifeline *Effective 7/17/25* New Program *Effective 12/1/2026*	• Update program name to Oregon Lifeline. • Update monthly benefit amount. • Add new program for a one-time device credit up to $100.	• Initial legal review to identify needed rule changes • Open rulemaking to update OAR Chapter 860 Division 033 to increase benefit, update language, and add new program. • Begin development of the new program.	• Stakeholder workshops • Finalize resources and implementation of the one-one-time device program.	Jon Cray jon.cray@puc.oregon.gov
SB 83 Wildfire hazard mitigation	• Status report on wildfire protection plans for both IOUs and COUs • Summary of OWEC activities • Summary of PSPSs initiated • Annual budgets and expenditures • Commission recommendations for legislative actions relating to wildfire	• Initial conversations with wildfire program director • Establishing expected timeframe for reporting that aligns with required reporting elements for utilities	• Develop reporting structure and determine method to memorialize summary information concurrent or in advance of submittal to WPAC and program director.	Heide Caswell Heide.CASWELL@puc.oregon.gov

Energy Bills *As of September 2025*

OPUC Staff Actions	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	2026 Q3	2026 Q4	2027 Q1	2027 Q2	Notes
HB 3179 - FAIR Act and SB 688 - Performance Based Regulation									
New Rulemaking: Ratemaking Framework	Scope and process design		Phased rulemaking for multi-year plan (MYP) framework					Target Complete	Includes integration of SB 688 performance-based ratemaking for electric utilities
New Rulemaking: Rate Case Schedule		Rate case schedule and MYP exception							
New Rulemaking: HB 3179 Requirements	Simple rules for moratorium, economic analysis, reporting								
New Investigation: HB 3179 Implementation Issues	Commission expectations for deferrals/rate adjustments		Monitor and adjust as needed						
	Staff expectations for economic impact analysis		Monitor and adjust as needed						Informal Staff-led process, bring issues to Commission as needed; will pause UM 2211 EJ SDRs and pivot future UM 2211 phases/work streams to HB 3179 implementation
				Staff 2026/2027 moratorium approach					
					Staff reporting expectations		Monitor/adjust as needed		
HB 3546 - POWER Act									
Existing Investigation: UM 2377 PGE Large Load	In scope for existing PGE Large Load Investigation								Address any incoming service requests prior to new rate class
New Investigation: PAC and IPC large load updates	Commission direction on timing for PAC and IPC filings		PAC and IPC filings as directed						
HB 2066 - Microgrid regulatory framework and HB 2065 - Third party microgrid interconnection studies									
New Rulemaking: Microgrid frameworks	Scope and process design		Phase 1 - focus on establishing framework for the simplest microgrid designs by statutory deadlines, including HB 2065 requirements					Tariff filings	Subsequent phases launch in 2028 or later
HB 3336 - Grid Enhancing Technologies (GETs)									
New Investigation: GETs cost-effectiveness	Staff expectations for cost-effectiveness methodology			Monitor and adjust as needed					Rule proposed in AR 669; informal Staff-led process, bring issues to Commission as needed; Technical assistance from PNNL
HB 3681 - Changes to Certificate for Public Convenience and Necessity									
New Rulemaking: CPCN Rule Revisions				Revise CPCN rules					Rulemaking process to commence after pending contested case, PCN 8, is concluded.
HB 3863 - Set Minimum Eligibility Cap for PURPA Standard Avoided Cost Rate at 10 MW									
Tariff revision filings	Commission review filings								Update PUC-approved utility documents as needed (tariffs, standard form of contract)
New Rulemaking: (Post-UM 2000)				Revise 3 MW solar eligibility cap in rule					Revise rule in post-UM 2000 rulemaking

Energy Bills - Continued *As of September 2025*

OPUC Staff Actions	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	2026 Q3	2026 Q4	2027 Q1	2027 Q2	Notes
HB 3792 - Increase to Oregon Energy Assistance Program Funding									
Tariff revision filings (PAC and PGE)	Commission review filings						Review funding levels 2027		Align tariff effective dates with HB 3179 winter rate increase moratorium.
SB 685 - Hydrogen Blending Notice Requirements									
No new docket required	Address issues as they arise								Use safety project plans for notice if needed

Water, Telecom, Consumer Services, and Safety Bills

OPUC Actions	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	2026 Q1	2026 Q2	2026 Q3	2026 Q4	2027 Q1	2027 Q2	Notes
HB 3148 - Oregon Lifeline Program Changes									
New Rulemaking: AR 675		Formalize Oregon Lifeline Program name change and implement new $100 benefit							Increased subsidy collection may occur in this or a separate rulemaking
Program development					Develop and launch $100 one-time benefit program				One-time benefit for eligible customers to purchase internet connected device
SB 845 - New Authority Related to Water Utilities									
New Rulemaking: AR 673	Scoping								Seeking water utility representatives to participate
HB 3156 - Requiring utilities to put PUC Consumer Services information on bills									
Notification sent to utilities									May do minor rulemaking to reflect new requirement; timing TBD
SB 83 - Repeal of wildfire risk maps, changes to PUC reporting requirements on utility infrastructure wildfire risk									
Annual reporting									Report to Legislature and others on actions taken to reduce the risk of wildfire from utility infrastructure