

October 6, 2022

To Caroline Moore and the Oregon Public Utility Commission

From Arlene Sherrett, Independent Advocate for Climate Action

Re: OPUC UM 2225 Status of Staff's Guidance to Utilities and Timeline for Decarbonization Action

I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to be a part of this process and for the privilege of giving my input. Staff have done a wonderful job of structuring their work so that all requirements arising from HB 2021 can be met. It was a big task. I appreciate their attention to detail and acknowledgement that since some issues cannot be pinned down immediately, flexibility is needed in finalizing firmer guidelines for certain aspects of the CEP requirements but that time urges us to move forward.

It's been quite an eye-opening process to see the complexity and multi-faceted nature of these issues and realize how much hard work is being done by all the parties. I was unaware of just how complex issues were before I entered into this process. The course of the investigation has remained not only civil but cooperative and that should be largely credited to Caroline's team and everyone's commitment to a successful process.

I had hoped that Commission was going to act on staff's plan and allow utilities to go forward with planning and development of initial CEPs but it is apparent that there is a lot of input still coming in and I am aware that the process of responding to that input could be lengthy if the Commission decides to delay action today, especially as Staff's attention to each participant's input has been thoughtful and detailed.

I want to encourage all parties to be clear in making known their remaining needs and point of view but at the same time, I feel we need to be finishing the process and getting on to creation of the first clean energy plans. I am reminded that reductions in GHG emissions are still lagging behind the commitments that we've made as a nation and that further worsening of climate effects may be waiting in the pipeline for us in the coming years.

I appreciate your kind attention.

Arlene Sherrett

Oregon Resident and Climate Action Advocate