

Preliminary Legislative/Executive Concepts for Oregon

GENERAL

1. Job creation through EEPS (Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard), a “job corp” program or other approach. Energy efficiency is labor intensive and creates long-term white and blue collar jobs.
2. Determine existing statutory barriers to large-scale (hundreds of millions of dollars) government (city, state, county), utility and private funding of energy efficiency and create legislation to remove them. Barriers already identified include legislative caps on property tax increases and limits to municipal bonding authority. Investigate the property tax funding model proposed by the City of Berkeley. Also, determine if the state itself can fund large-scale efficiency in a fiscally responsible manner.
3. Direct OSU to create a “Factor 10” engineering program.
4. Eliminate min/max restriction in Oregon energy code. Would allow Portland and other cities to adopt more stringent codes.
5. Make OPUC require both electric and gas utilities to develop plans or incorporate into existing plans two natural gas scenarios: (1) no growth in supply and (2) reduction in supply. Electric utilities need to include implications for space heating and generation.
6. Appliance standards. Two-pronged strategy: (1) continue to adopt more stringent non-federally exempted standards at the state level; (2) work with NW congressional delegation to get EPACT and NAECA amended at the federal level.
7. Require code adoption Boards to use 30 years as acceptable payback for envelope and other durable measures.
8. Designate ODOE to develop a state-wide energy plan with long-term goals (ZEB/carbon neutral economy) and include binding interim goals.
9. Require utilities to analyze customers and identify biggest consumers and offer specific programs to reduce their consumption.
10. Require OPUC to use inverted block rates that give large economic incentives for large users to reduce consumption. Make sure the initial block is set low to ensure equity.
11. Direct ODOE to evaluate availability of fuels for space heating and prepare a plan, including recommendations to the Governor, to ensure that space heating needs of Oregonians will be met in the future. The plan shall look at availability and prices of various fuels, heating equipment technologies, and options to reduce residential space heating loads.

RESIDENTIAL

1. Require an energy rating for each existing house at the time of sale so that buyers will have that information. Direct ODOE to develop a rating system under an advisory committee.
2. Require efficiency upgrades at time of sale or possibly at time of re-siding.
3. Identify homes that have no insulation in the floors, the walls, or the ceiling. Create special ETO/utility programs to work with owners of these homes and give them generous incentives to get them insulated.
4. Set strict energy capacity limits for new homes, and charge a fee to exceed those limits that would help fund energy efficiency improvements in existing housing stock. Capacity limits could include:
 - Size of the heating system (heat pumps, gas furnace, etc.)
 - Size of the hot water tank
 - Length of ducts
 - Square feet of windows, skylights, doors
 - Amps/plug load
 - Gas line size
5. Require homes that exceed limits in #1 to install remote demand limiting devices.

COMMERCIAL

1. Require an energy rating for all existing buildings that gives the market information about energy use. Provide funding to conduct state-wide trainings for how to use the energy rating system.
2. Require all buildings below a minimum threshold rating to upgrade until they meet the minimum rating. Have the legislature direct OPUC/ETO or utilities to create revolving loan fund for low-interest loans to owners that must upgrade. Create a schedule that details what the fund covers (e.g. nothing with less than 1 year payback, incremental cost for 2-3 year paybacks, X% for 4-5 year payback, etc.). Have some prescriptive requirements by end-uses. Examples:
 1. Lighting
 - a. All T-12s removed. Replacement must include lighting design, not just 1 for 1 fixture replacement
 - b. All incandescent general lighting removed. Replace with CFL/LED.
 2. Controls for Lighting and HVAC
 - a. Control schedule must match building operation schedule
3. For tax purposes, reclassify energy-efficient buildings that meet or exceed LEED Gold standards, including points for energy.

GOVERNMENT

1. Develop procurement policies for state equipment purchases that require energy efficient equipment.
2. Reintroduce a version of SB 576, which required LEED in public buildings. (a) Buildings must meet be certified as meeting sustainable design practices by an organization or program approved by the Oregon Department of Energy, including minimum energy standards as set by ODOE. (b) The standard shall allow use of wood products that are harvested from a forest certified as sustainable by a credible third party or from forests regulated under the Oregon Forest Practices Act.
3. Improve SEED to require new state buildings to be 30% better than ASHRAE, and renovated state buildings to be 20% better. Require all new public buildings to achieve LEED Gold rating, including the energy points specified by rule ODOE, ensuring coordination with SEED for state buildings. Direct Dept. of Energy to adopt rules phasing in standards that all public buildings be carbon neutral by 2030.