

Key Provisions of SB 1149 (as amended by HB 3633)

- By March 1, 2002, Portland General Electric (PGE) and PacifiCorp must provide their customers the following options (Section 2, 4, and 4a):
 - Direct access for nonresidential customers,
 - A portfolio of options (such as market-based and green rates) for residential customers,
 - A cost-of-service rate option for all customers (the PUC may waive this requirement for large nonresidential customers after July 1, 2003 if it makes certain findings about market performance), and
 - Default service for nonresidential customers.

- Once they begin offering direct access, PGE and PacifiCorp shall collect a three percent charge to fund various public purposes (Section 3).

- PGE and PacifiCorp shall collect \$5 million on an annual basis for low-income bill payment assistance beginning January 1, 2000, increasing to \$10 million annually on October 1, 2001 (Section 3).

- The PUC is directed to:
 - Ensure that direct access does not cause unwarranted cost shifting (Section 8),
 - Determine transition charges or credits (Section 8),
 - Develop policies to eliminate barriers to the development of a competitive retail market (Section 6),
 - Certify electricity service suppliers and establish other consumer protections (Section 14),
 - Adopt various rules necessary to implement the Act (Section 15), and

- A consumer-owned utility (a municipal utility, cooperative, or PUD) can decide whether and under what terms and conditions it will offer its customers direct access or portfolio options (Section 24). Once a consumer-owned utility offers direct access, it shall collect from eligible customers a public purposes charge (Section 27).

- Cities can collect privilege taxes from distribution utilities providing direct access through volumetric charges equivalent to the existing gross revenue fees (Section 29).