2017-19 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

MISSION AND VISION
The PUC is greatly committed to a sustainable 21st century, and is implementing the necessary actions to do our part for Oregon. The PUC’s relationships with utility providers, consumers and stakeholders, the Department of Energy, the Energy Trust, and Oregon Emergency Management support state efforts to promote sustainability.

Mission: To ensure Oregon utility customers have access to safe, reliable and high quality utility services at just and reasonable rates. This is done through robust and thorough analysis and independent decision-making conducted in an open and fair process.

Vision: The most important sustainability effort we can make is to continue to strongly focus on our mission, which will ensure safe, reliable and competitive utility services in the years to come. The agency supports renewable resources and prudent efforts to ensure on-going resiliency of energy production and use, telecommunication systems, and our natural resources. In addition, we have identified a sustainability goal to improve the efficiency of energy and water use and increase energy generation from renewable resources.

Agency Overview:
The Public Utility Commission (PUC) regulates investor-owned utilities, including: electric, gas, telephone, and select water companies, and has a 2017-19 staff of 126 FTEs. The primary facility is located in Salem with a small satellite office in Portland.

Included in PUC operations is the Board of Maritime Pilots (OBMP), which is comprised of 9 Board members as follows: 3 members of the public; 3 members of the shipping industry, and 3 pilot members. OBMP’s day-to-day operations is overseen by an executive director and an administrator and is located at the Portland State office Building.

OBMP supports state sustainability efforts by ensuring safe passage for shipping in Oregon ports. Professional pilotage ensures sustainable commerce in Oregon ports, and a prosperous economy.

Established in 1846, the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots’ (OBMP) mission is to promote public safety by assuring that only well-qualified persons are licensed to pilot maritime vessels entering and leaving Oregon ports. OBMP board members and staff work together to ensure the availability of efficient, economical and competent pilotage services. The Board members are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Oregon State Senate.

The PUC has traditionally supported sustainability; however, the Governor’s 2004 order in support of the Oregon Sustainability Act gave us the opportunity to review our actions and to focus on expanding our efforts as follows:
• Improving the efficiency of energy and water use and increasing generation from renewable resources.
• Applying performance measures and targets, working with energy utilities, and revisiting our pricing for energy and water utility customers.
• Actions are leading to a more effective use of public purpose funds and are promoting customers’ awareness of how their use of energy affects sustainability.
In November 2017, the Governor signed the following Executive Orders:

- **17-20** directing state agencies to take on additional challenges and goals to reduce our greenhouse gas impact with specific actions for the PUC including:
  - Working with Energy Trust on new pilot programs in existing buildings
  - Prioritizing energy efficiency in affordable housing
  - Coordinating sharing of data on energy use reductions
  - Evaluating distributed energy’s impact on resiliency efforts
  - Participate in the Built Environment Efficiency Working Group

- **17-21** directing state agencies to develop plans and take actions to increase the adoption of electric vehicles, including:
  - Replace 25% of state fleet to zero emissions electric vehicles by 2025
  - Increase the number of statewide electric vehicles from 16,000 in 2017 to 30,000 by 2020.
  - Develop electric vehicle charging stations along the Interstate 5 corridor, and state office buildings for use by state employees and the public.
  - Incentivizing electric vehicle adoption through rebates.
  - Outreach to the public and recognition of Oregon businesses adopting electric vehicle use.

In addition to regulatory and facility conservation practices, the agency also supports sustainability as follows:

- The PUC’s Safety, Reliability, and Security Division inspects gas pipelines and electric transmission lines, and investigates incidents to protect utility services and customers.
- The PUC’s Residential Service Protection Fund (RSPF) program supports low-income, and disabled Oregonians by providing subsidized telephone service and adaptive communication equipment to eligible state citizens. This program supports sustainability of Oregonians who are experiencing challenges in daily living and survival.
- The PUC’s Consumer Services section provides support to residents who have concerns or are experiencing problems with utility service, billing issues, general information about utility services, or Commission actions. This section supports sustainable utility services and helps educate the public about utility issues.

The PUC Utility Program Director, Chief Operating Officer, Electric Resources and Planning Division Administrator, Telecommunications and Water Division Administrator, and Central Services Administrator have responsibility for implementing the Plan. Staff from our Central Services Division represents our agency at the Inter-Agency Sustainability Coordinators Network (ISCN), and presents to the Oregon Sustainability Board. The agency is also represented as an Agency Advocate at the Environmental Justice Taskforce. Coordination with the Oregon Department of Energy, The Energy Trust of Oregon, and input from the public are also an integral part of our success.

**Plan Promotion**: To educate our employees, a segment on sustainability has been added to our new employee orientation and this Plan has been provided to and reviewed with responsible managers and staff. The Management Team reviews the Plan's progress on a semi-annual basis. Our internal newsletter, *The Communicator*, has periodic updates on sustainability. We began implementing our Plan early in January of 2004 with staff’s review of utility filings for potential areas of action. The Plan continues with a review of tariffs as they are filed. Some activity depends on when energy and water utilities choose to file for rate changes.
SUSTAINABILITY FEATURES AT THE PUC MAIN FACILITY – THE BEARDSLEY BUILDING

In an effort to enhance the sustainability of a six-story building in downtown Salem for State of Oregon occupancy, Beardsley Building Development contracted with Advanced Energy Systems to install a solar panel array on the rooftop. The solar panel installation consists of 68 SolarWorld solar modules producing up to 285 watts each. This 19.4 kw PV Power System is monitored by a live solar monitoring web page and tracked through a digital energy meter. During its lifetime, the system will offset 340 Tons of CO₂ which is the equivalent to the conservation of 7,880 trees or 34,590 gallons of gasoline. The building uses Panorama Slate 20 Window Tint that reduces energy consumption.

CURRENT GOAL AND ACTIONS

*Encourage sustainable resource use through Oregon’s public purpose and supplemental energy efficiency programs and utility pricing options.*

The Commission is achieving this goal through the following three actions:

**Action 1:** Establish performance measures and targets to gauge the performance of the Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) in acquiring cost-effective conservation and renewable resources. PUC oversees the expenditure of public purpose, gas utility program funding and supplemental energy efficiency (SB 838) funds by ETO for energy efficiency and renewable resources. Funds are collected from the customers of Portland General Electric, PacifiCorp, NW Natural, and Cascade Natural Gas. ETO will receive an estimated $199 million in 2017 through:

a) SB1149 public purpose change funding,

b) SB 838 supplemental energy efficiency funding, and
c) Gas utility program funding.

Funding total is 85% from Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp and 15% from NW Natural Gas, Avista, and Cascade Natural Gas. About 88% of the budget will go to incentives and direct customer program management. ETO’s 2017 programs will accomplish the following:

- Save 564 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) = power to over 54,000 Oregon homes for a year – at a ratepayer cost of roughly one-third the cost of a new power plant.
- Save 6.7 million annual therms = heat to 13,200 average Oregon homes for a year – at a cost 20% less than the cost of new gas supply.
- Spur the development of new renewable energy generation resources that will generate 25 million kWh a year.

PUC established specific measures and targets to evaluate ETO’s performance, which include:

- electric efficiency performance,
- natural gas efficiency performance,
- renewable resource generation,
- financial integrity,
- percentage of funds received spent on administrative and program support costs, and
- customer satisfaction in dealing with ETO and its contractors.
Each year, PUC sets targets for each measure and considers ETO’s performance in meeting the targets to determine grant agreement renewal. Performance is considered for Legislative reporting on continuation of public purpose funding.

**Action 2:** Implementing new energy pricing programs to encourage efficient and clean energy use. The cost to meet peak electricity needs in the Pacific NW has increased in recent years. Pricing strategies to encourage customers to reduce usage or shift to off-peak, lower cost periods are likely to be cost-effective substitutes for buying power or building generating plants for use at peak times. Strategies include:
- peak load pricing (charging higher prices during times of actual or expected peak usage),
- energy buybacks (paying customers to reduce usage at peak times),
- dispatchable standby generation (paying for the right to use a customer's emergency generator during the utility's peak) and
- direct load control (paying a residential customer for the right to cycle heaters or air conditioners on and off during peak periods).
- voluntary green pricing programs

PUC encourages and works with utilities to identify, design, and offer other cost-effective programs.

**Action 3:** Adopting pricing for water utility customers that encourage more efficient use. Many water utilities charge customers a flat monthly rate, so that customers pay the same amount no matter how much they use. In order to encourage customers to use water more efficiently, the Commission encourages the adoption of volumetric rates (or even increasing block rates, where a customer pays a higher rate per hundred cubic feet at higher levels of usage) when regulated water utilities file to change rates.

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| **Action 1:** Leads to more effective use of public purpose funds in achieving energy efficiency savings and renewable resource generation. | The agency is successful if it applies specific performance measures and targets for the ETO in at least the following five areas:  
- energy saved,  
- energy generated from renewable resources,  
- cost-effectiveness of energy savings,  
- administrative cost share, and  
- customer satisfaction. | The Utility Program Director (Position #145) is responsible for leading a public process each year to solicit input on performance measures and targets and presenting a recommendation for Commission action at a public meeting. | In the third quarter of each year, the targets are reviewed and targets set for the following year. |
| **Action 2:** Promote sustainability by giving customers price signals reflecting the cost of their energy or water consumption. | The number of new utility pricing programs measures our progress. We have achieved fourteen new programs by the end of the 2017-19 biennium. | The Energy Resources and Planning Administrator (Position #113) is responsible for working with utilities to develop programs and for reviewing and recommending | Agency staff is reviewing utility proposals that would allow pricing options to be offered to more customers. The utilities may file |
Commission action on the programs when they are filed.

| Action 3: Promote sustainability by giving customers price signals reflecting the cost of their energy or water consumption. | The number of water utilities adopting the pricing changes will measure progress. At the end of the 2017-19 biennium, 94% of rate–regulated water utilities have some form of conservation pricing. | Telecommunications and Water Division Administrator (Position #218) is responsible for reviewing possible adoption or modification of usage pricing when water rate cases are filed. | Activity depends on when water utilities choose to file for rate changes. As highlighted, 94% of rate – regulated water utilities have some form of conservation pricing. |

The agency provides opportunities for public input in undertaking all three actions. The agency coordinates with the Oregon Department of Energy in setting performance measure targets and reviewing the performance of ETO, and in reviewing new pricing programs for energy utilities.

**CURRENT EFFORTS**

The following list highlights our current efforts to promote sustainability in agency operations.

- **Office Equipment, Furnishings, and Paper Products**
  - PUC depends on a robust computer network for staff use and public engagement.
    - The agency buys energy efficient computers and monitors for staff, and maintains an efficient and reliable network that supports effective and sustainable operations and ensures successful critical business functions. Agency computers were upgraded in 2017.
    - Staff are reminded and encouraged to turn computers and monitors off at the end of each day, and staff compliance is consistent. Computers lock out after 5 minutes of non-usage to protect system integrity and reduce electric usage.
    - Desktop monitors are scheduled to go into sleep mode when not in use. This not only reduces energy, but also reduces the risk of confidentiality breaches, data loss, or degradation of system integrity.
    - The agency maintains considerable confidential information and uses multiple system security methods to prevent data breaches, degradation or failures within our network.
  - The agency uses e-mail/e-filings when possible during transactions with stakeholders and the general public.
    - Communications with stakeholders and the general public is an important element of agency operations, and in the past, has been dependent on paper documents.
    - Electronic communications reduces the amount of paper, ink for printers, and staff time involved in the communications process.
  - PUC has centralized printers within agency program areas to reduce the total number of agency printers.
Reducing printers within the agency encourages staff to get some exercise by getting away from their desks.

Fewer printers tend to reduce the amount of printed documents, and reduces printer wear, paper, and toner cartridges.

- We protect and sustain our information systems network and agency information resources by maintaining appropriate security software, training our staff about cyber security, and testing our network and computer systems for vulnerabilities on a regular basis.

- Lighting.
  - The light fixtures in the main PUC Salem facility utilizes timers set for agency operating hours. At night, these timers shut off most facility work-area lighting – except for emergency lighting. The lighting timers can be overridden by staff who are working late.
  - The facility uses 3-bulb fluorescent lighting fixtures that are wired into switches that allow staff to use all 3 lamps, reduce to 2 lamps, or reduce to 1 lamp.
  - We have also worked with staff who want to remove all lamps from fixtures above their work areas, and rely on ambient and natural light harvesting, which some staff prefer.
  - Motion detectors are used in bathrooms and some parking areas to turn lights off when not in use.
  - We have researched and are in the process of implementing a pilot project to change our current fluorescent lamps to LEDs. Subtle flicker in fluorescent lighting can be distracting to some staff, and LED lighting is more energy efficient in terms of energy use as well as long-term bulb replacement expense. Based on staff feedback; this project will be expanded from the test area to all sections within our facilities.

- Water Usage
  - The agency installed water bottle filling stations on each floor of our building. These filling stations allow staff to fill and re-use water bottles, which reduces overall water usage and keeps plastic water bottles from going to landfills.
  - Facility bathroom fixtures have automated actuation to ensure reduction of water use.

- Product Stewardship
  - We buy from the prison and local businesses whenever possible.
  - We work with state price agreements to conserve state and agency resources.
  - We work with state surplus to more efficiently recycle, re-use, or discard old or operationally-obsolete property.
  - The PUC buys items from surplus periodically, when operationally feasible, to reduce expense.
  - The PUC participates in interagency property transfers when the opportunity arises. This provides an opportunity to share unneeded agency assets between agencies and reduce overall state and agency purchase expense.

- Employee Commuting/Telecommuting
  - We encourage carpooling and use of public transit systems, and promote local transit programs and alternative transportation efforts.
  - We maintain a secure bicycle storage room to provide a convenient location for staff to store their bikes. Bike racks and security cables are located in the bike room, and the room requires an access control card for entry. Providing free safe, secure bicycle storage promotes and encourages staff to reduce fuel usage, reduce transportation expense, help the environment, and stay fit.
  - Telecommuting
    - We allow staff telecommuting when possible.
We provide laptops for staff who choose to telecommute or who need to travel on agency business.

We provide secure access to network resources for staff who work away from the office.

- PUC maintains several on-site fleet vehicles for staff business use. This reduces staff time and fuel expense as compared to travelling to and from the fleet vehicle facility for each trip.

**Sustainability of Utility Services**

- PUC Gas Pipeline and Safety staff are required to travel throughout Oregon to conduct safety and reliability tests and incident investigations. These efforts promote safe, reliable gas and electric services that ensure our state’s residential and commercial environment are sustainable for future generations.

**Portland Satellite Office**

- We established a Portland Satellite Office to reduce commutes to and from Salem for staff who live in Portland and surrounding areas. This reduces fuel usage, promotes staff job satisfaction, and a healthier environment.
- PUC Salem-area staff use the satellite office when they have meetings with utilities and stakeholders in Portland. This is especially helpful when there are multiple meetings or special projects in the Portland area

**Local Economic Stability**

- We purchase from local businesses whenever possible.
- As a state agency, we provide a stable and diverse pool of working professionals that help sustain and support our community.

**Recycling & Waste Reduction**

- We recycle printer and copier toner cartridges, paper and batteries.

**Citizen Involvement**

- The agency conducts Public meetings and open Hearings.

**Stakeholder Reporting**

- Industry and customer groups, and other alliances have input and are involved in Commission decisions.

**Environmental Justice**

- Public notices are broadcast to the public through our website and through various communication resources. Casting a wide net in our communication efforts ensures we reach the broadest segment of our citizens.
- PUC provides public education about state regulatory operations, agency program services, consumer rights, and topical presentations on subjects such as environmental issues and emerging technologies in the Utility sector of the economy.
- Several programs within the agency conduct outreach to diverse audiences through direct contact or the use of various forms of media.
- The PUC is represented on the Environmental Justice Taskforce, and participates as an agency advocate at scheduled meetings.

**Interagency Sustainability Coordinators Network (ISCN)**
- The PUC is represented on the Interagency Sustainability Coordinators Network (ISCN).
- The agency reports sustainability efforts to the ISCN.
- We apply those initiatives, shared by other agencies that can be successfully implemented in the privately owned facilities occupied by PUC staff.

- **Education**
  - The PUC develops and distributes Consumer and agency fact sheets.
  - The PUC invites input from the public at regulatory hearings, and public meetings.
  - The PUC educates utility consumers through our Consumer Services staff.
  - The PUC encourages input and feedback by reaching out to Oregon communities during public comment meetings held throughout the state. This provides an opportunity for the public to comment on agency actions and decisions, and for the agency to better understand the acceptance or concerns from the public.

- **Sustaining Those In Need**
  - The agency’s Residential Service Protection Fund (RSPF) program coordinates free or subsidized telephone service for low income Oregonians.
  - The RSPF program also loans adaptive equipment that allows qualified Oregonians with disabilities to communicate. Adaptive equipment includes: amplified phones, big button phones, and speech generating devices for use by individuals with hearing, visual, cognitive, or mobility impairments.
  - The agency’s Consumer Services staff coordinate medical certificates for those with medical needs to help prevent utility disconnects, and establish a payment plan.

**CURRENT REGULATORY ACTIVITIES PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY**
The following list highlights regulatory activities that promote sustainability.

- **Utility planning** - Electric and natural gas utilities are required to treat energy efficiency like other resources and to account for the benefits of renewable resources in avoiding emissions, diversifying the resource portfolio and reducing the risk of fuel price increases.

- **Utility pricing** - We have investigated:
  - What utilities should pay for the output of renewable resource and cogeneration projects.
  - How much they should charge customers (mainly industrial) for standby power when their on-site generation is out of service.
  - Voluntary Renewable Energy Tariffs (VRETs).
  - Solar programs and incentives in Oregon, and
  - Community Solar options.

- **Removing barriers to sustainable resource use**
  - We examined barriers to the use of distributed generation (smaller resource located closer to where the power is needed).
  - Reviewed and examined the benefits of using natural gas directly for end uses (like heating) instead of using it to generate electricity for that purpose.

- **Public safety**
We inspect utility facilities and review maintenance practices to ensure compliance with national safety standards.

PUC staff in the Utility Safety, Reliability, and Security Division are required to travel throughout Oregon to conduct safety and reliability tests, and incident investigations on gas pipeline and electrical transmission systems. These efforts ensure safe, reliable gas and electric services so our state’s residential and commercial environments are livable, prosperous, and sustainable for future generations.

- Implementation of new legislation
  - SB 1547 initiatives
    - Details in 2017-19 Progress Statement below

  - HB 2193 – Energy storage
    - Details in 2017-19 Progress Statement below

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES
The Commission is committed to a Sustainable 21st century for Oregon. In the long-term, we will continue to incorporate sustainability principles into our operations and decision making process, while carrying out our mission and our agency business plan (as set forth in our budget narrative).

Policies and actions to promote sustainability further the Commission’s goal of ensuring Oregon consumers receive utility service at affordable rates. Recognizing the benefits of sustainability in how utilities plan for and acquire new resources helps to keep utility costs and customer energy bills down. These benefits include: reduced exposure to pollution taxes and costs, lower fuel cost risk and price volatility with renewable resources, and greater use of energy efficiency instead of more generation to meet consumers’ energy needs.

2017-2019 Sustainability Plan Progress Statement
As of November 1, 2017, the Commission's progress in meeting its sustainability goals is as follows:

1.) Developed a strategic plan that supports sustainability and addresses the following areas:
   - Strategic Goal: Protect Oregon ratepayers and obtain for them safe and reliable service at reasonable rates. The following 5 tactical goals support this strategic goal:
     - Oversee and approve customer rates for electricity, natural gas, and water charged by Oregon regulated utilities. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of a Thriving Oregon Economy and Responsible Environmental Stewardship, and is evaluated through 3 key performance measures.
     - Set and enforce pricing and service rules that protect consumers. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of Excellence in State Government, and is evaluated through 3 key performance measures.
     - Provide all customers options for controlling their energy use and bills. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of A Thriving Oregon Economy and Responsible Environmental Stewardship, and is evaluated through 2 key performance measures.
     - Ensure utilities operate efficiently and, through their resource choices, meet their customer’s needs at the lowest possible cost and risk. This goal meets the Governor’s priority of A Thriving Oregon Economy and Responsible Environmental Stewardship, and is evaluated through 2 key performance measures.
     - Oversee programs to ensure telephone service is affordable and accessible to all Oregonians. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of Safer, Healthier Communities, and is evaluated through 2 key performance measures.
• Strategic Goal: Promote customer needs in evolving markets. The following 5 tactical goals support this strategic goal:

  - Promote and environment in which new and innovative energy and telecommunications technologies that benefit consumers can thrive. This goal supports the Governor’s priorities of a thriving Oregon economy and safer, healthier communities, and is evaluated through 4 key performance measures.
  - Influence federal energy and telecommunications laws and policies to benefit Oregon consumers. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of a thriving Oregon economy and safer, healthier communities, and is evaluated through 3 key performance measures.
  - Ensure utilities comply with all state and federal laws governing their resource choices. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of a thriving Oregon economy and safer, healthier communities, and is evaluated through 2 key performance measures.
  - Ensure Oregon’s regulations keep pace with changing technology and market conditions and continue to benefit consumers. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of a thriving Oregon economy and safer, healthier communities, and is evaluated through 2 key performance measures.
  - Set and enforce rules for fair and effective competition in the energy and telecommunications industries. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of a thriving Oregon economy and safer, healthier communities, and is evaluated through 2 key performance measures.

• Strategic Goal: Maintain safety, reliability, and security. The following 3 tactical goals support this strategic goal:

  - Ensure that pipelines, power lines, and other energy facilities operate safely and reliably. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of responsible environmental stewardship, and is evaluated through 3 key performance measures.
  - Ensure that regulated utilities and telecommunications companies are prepared to respond effectively to major disasters and cyber-attacks. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of safer, healthier communities, and is evaluated through required annual meetings by utilities to discuss disaster preparedness and cyber security.
  - Set and enforce standards to ensure high quality utility and telecommunications service to Oregon consumers. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of safer, healthier communities, and is evaluated through 5 key performance measures.

• Strategic Goal: Promote energy efficiency and demand response programs. The following tactical 2 goals support this strategic goal:

  - Ensure the Energy Trust of Oregon helps deliver clean and affordable energy benefits to 1.6 million utility customers while achieving established internal performance measures related to energy efficiency, renewable energy development, financial integrity, program delivery efficiency, and customer satisfaction. This goal supports the Governor’s priority for Excellence in State Government and Responsible Environmental Stewardship. This goal is evaluated through 5 key performance measures.
• Ensure energy utilities implement innovative demand response strategies to benefit customers. This goal is evaluated through the biannual Integrated Resource Planning reviews.

- Strategic Goal: Continually improve business performance and work environment to benefit customers, employees, regulated utilities, stakeholders, and the public. The following 5 tactical goals support this strategic goal:
  - Resolve customer complaints about utility rates and service in a timely and efficient manner. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of Excellence in State Government, and is evaluated through 3 key performance measures.
  - Continue to foster a work environment that encourages employees to enhance their skills and creates opportunities for professional growth. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of Excellence in State Government, and is evaluated through Recruitment and retention data, which is in development.
  - Continue to enhance access to Commission proceedings through web-streaming, video, conferencing, and outreach. This goal is evaluated through Public input to Commission meetings.
  - Implement a new web-based filing system to better serve stakeholders and the citizens of Oregon. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of Excellence in State Government, and is evaluated through the completion and acceptance of project.
  - Redesign and implement a revised agency website that will be more user friendly for the public, regulated utilities, and stakeholders. This goal supports the Governor’s priority of Excellence in State Government, and is evaluated through the completion and acceptance of project.

2.) Established performance measures and targets to gauge the performance of the Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) in acquiring cost-effective conservation and renewable resources: The Commission adopted 2018 targets in November 2017 and considered the ETO’s 2016 performance in its March 2017 decision to adopt performance measures for 2017 activities.

3.) Implement new energy pricing programs that encourage efficient use.
   a. PUC is investigating “Green Tariffs” for non-residential customers of Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp.
   b. PUC approved a total of 14 new utility pricing program since 2006.
   c. PUC approved solar portfolio option price offering for Portland General Electric.
   d. PUC established a pilot program to demonstrate the use and effectiveness of “Volumetric incentive rates” and payments for electricity delivered from solar photovoltaic (PV) energy systems within PGE, Pacific Power, and Idaho Power service territories.
   e. PUC approved the implementation of PGE’s automated demand response pilot program to demonstrate its use and effectiveness in PGE’s service territory.

4.) Adopt pricing for water utility customers that encourages more efficient use: volumetric pricing has been adopted for 94% of rate-regulated water utilities.

5.) Additional Commission sustainability initiatives include:
   a. Initiating rulemaking to competitive bidding guidelines and planning requirements for renewable resources to meet the expanded Renewable Portfolios Standard (50%) renewables by 2040).
   b. Conducted a rulemaking in 2017 to implement SB 1547 Section 22 Community Solar Programs to be designed in 2018.
c. Review of utility transportation electrification program proposals as per Section 20 of SB 1547.
d. Implemented integrated resource planning guidelines for gas utilities.
e. Monitored public purpose charge for NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas to meet ETO’s approved program budget.
f. Ensured electric utilities’ compliance with the Commission rules implementing Oregon’s renewable portfolio standards including filings for establishing implementation plans, alternate compliance payments, and timely recovery of prudently incurred costs.
g. Implementation of HB 2193 through creation of guidelines for utility proposals for new energy storage projects and determination of a consistent methodology for value stacking of benefits of energy storage.

6.) Investigated Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) process for electric IRP process improvements and for modifications necessary for gas IRP implementation.

7.) Completed an extensive review of calculation methodology for avoided cost price paid to Qualifying Facilities under the Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act (PURPA), resulting in renewable qualifying facilities receiving a more accurate price that takes into account differences between different renewable technologies.

8.) Participated in the establishment and implementation of Avista’s Low-Income Weatherization Program and in the improvement to Cascade Natural Gas’s and NW Natural’s Low-Income Weatherization Programs.

9.) Approved ETO’s expansion of a Pay for Performance pilot for energy efficiency in large commercial buildings.

10.) Completed a legislative report on the effectiveness of the ETO’s incentives and whether such incentives could replace certain state tax credits.

11.) Completed a legislative report on the effectiveness of solar programs throughout the state.

12.) Completed a legislative report on the feasibility of energy efficiency power purchase agreements and the cost-effectiveness of selling energy efficiency to electric utilities at prices equivalent to those of new generation facilities.

13.) Working with utilities, stakeholders, and other Oregon agencies in tracking the 2018 SB 1070, Cap and Invest Bill.