

2025 Agency Policy Option Packages in Governor's Recommended Budget

Package 201: Energy Development Services Staffing

ODOE's incentive programs support our mission to help Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. The programs also strengthen equity in the energy sector by expanding access to incentives and rebates for Oregonians with lower incomes, who may otherwise be unable to afford renewable energy or energy efficiency improvements.

This POP extends seven limited duration positions into permanent full-time positions and aligns the positions to the type of work (such as processing rebates across programs or conducting administrative rulemaking) rather than have them be program specific. Staff extended by the POP will support the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program as well as remaining administrative work from programs phased out of the division. This continuity will help ensure ODOE is able to continue to offer strong customer service and engage with the public, Oregon Tribes, utilities, public bodies, and the solar industry and HVAC industry on these programs. (\$1,759,694 Other Fund – 7 FTE)

Package 202: Single Resource General Fund Carryforward

The Oregon Department of Energy is working to launch an information hub with resources to help people understand what energy efficiency incentives are available for them, as well as to share educational materials about energy efficiency technologies.

This POP retains the General Fund investment made by House Bill 3630 (2023) into the 2025-27 biennium to continue support for a single resource information hub pertaining to home energy rebates, which connects Oregonians with information regarding available resources for energy efficiency investments. Continuing this funding will allow ODOE to add functionality and resources to better serve members of environmental justice communities and additional target audiences. (\$292,766 General Fund)

Packages 90 and 203: Grid Resilience Match General Fund Carry-Forward and Investment

The Grid Resilience program provides federally supported grants to Oregon utilities for projects that strengthen the electric grid. The legislature previously provided \$3 million in matching General Fund that was necessary to receive \$20 million in federal grants. ODOE will spend the match funding across the grant's performance period, which will span multiple biennia. Package 203 carries forward the General Fund investment made in the 2023-25 biennium for matching funds that are unspent into the 2025-27 biennium. Package 90 provides an additional \$1 million as partial matching funds for the third allocation of an additional \$10 million in federal grants. This program has a Legislative Concept for this technical adjustment, including the creation of a dedicated fund. (\$2,523,876 General Fund – 2 FTE)

Package 204: C-REP Other Fund Carry-Forward and Investment

This POP provides ODOE an additional \$25 million in General Fund for deposit into the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program, with the expenditure authority to continue the program.

The Community Renewable Energy Grant Program provides grants to public bodies and Tribes for planning and constructing renewable energy and energy resilience projects. ODOE has made three rounds of grants available: \$18 million in spring 2024 and two \$12 million rounds in 2023. Across the three rounds of opportunity announcements, ODOE received 195 eligible applications and awarded 50 planning projects totaling \$4,387,990 in grants and 44 construction projects totaling \$37,454,977 in grants. Projects have been

awarded in 28 of Oregon's 36 counties. ODOE is proposing a related legislative concept to enable funds from this program to support resilience only or energy efficiency planning and projects, which would respond to a need we have heard from public bodies and consumer-owned utilities. (\$25,000,000 General Fund, and carrying forward unspent dollars)

Package 301 County Energy Resilience GF Carry-Forward

This POP retains the General Fund investment made in the 2023-25 biennium for a program to provide planning grants to counties to prepare a county-level resilience plan. The program is set to sunset on January 2, 2026. (\$540,905 General Fund -0.25 FTE)

Package 401 Facility Siting Staffing

This POP will provide an additional compliance officer to strengthen the energy facility siting compliance program, enable the agency to review and inspect facilities in a timely manner, and ensure that that any compliance issues or incidents have a swift agency response. The position is supported by Other Funds revenue derived from charges for services. (\$256,953 Other Funds – 1.0 FTE)

Package 451 and 452 Employee Services

This POP creates two new positions at ODOE to help enhance employee services and strengthen the organization. A dedicated Learning and Development Specialist position will elevate employee development and succession planning, which will ensure a highly skilled workforce that meets current and future staffing demands and aligns employee development with organizational goals. An Employee Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Implementation Specialist will foster an inclusive and welcoming workplace through initiatives that value and celebrate diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging among employees. (\$534,198 Other Funds – 2 FTE)

Packages 81 and 90 Policy Advisors

These packages provide funding and position authority for two Governor's office policy advisor positions. A Climate Policy advisor, supported by federal and grant funding, provides leadership and direction from the Governor's Office to state agencies, boards, and commissions that administer climate and energy policies to ensure they understand, support, and implement the Governor's climate policy and strategy for achieving the state's climate and energy goals. A second policy advisor, supported by General Fund, provides oversight and coordination of state agencies in meeting the obligations of the Columbia Basin River Initiative agreement, serves as a liaison to the Federal government, Tribes, State of Washington, and other interested parties on Columbia River Basin matters, and provides the Governor with policy analysis and advice on Columbia Basin issues. (\$733,410 General Fund, \$339,224 Other Fund, \$339,224 Federal Funds – 2 FTE)