



From the Office of Representatives Marsh, Hudson and Dobson

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POWER Act Delivers First Major Win for Oregon Ratepayers as Data Centers Begin Paying Their Fair Share

SALEM, Ore. – Oregon families and small businesses will see relief on their electricity bills following Portland General Electric's proposal to implement new rates under the [POWER Act](#), landmark legislation designed to protect everyday ratepayers from bearing the costs of explosive growth in the data center industry.

Under PGE's proposal, rates for large data centers would increase by 29%, while residential customers would receive a rate reduction and most other business customers would also see lower rates. The proposal reflects the core principle behind the POWER Act: those driving the need for costly new energy infrastructure should be responsible for paying for it.

"This is exactly what the POWER Act was designed to accomplish," said **Rep. Pam Marsh** (D-Southern Jackson County), chief sponsor of the law. "Oregonians should not be asked to subsidize the extraordinary energy demands of some of the world's largest technology companies. This proposal is an important step toward a more affordable, fair, and accountable energy system."

The proposal comes as data center electricity demand continues to surge across Oregon. The POWER Act ensures that as Oregon continues to attract technology investment, the benefits of economic growth are not accompanied by unfair cost burdens on residential customers. By requiring large energy users to shoulder the costs associated with their growth, the law promotes both affordability and accountability.

"This is about protecting Oregon energy consumers," Rep. Zach Hudson (D-East Multnomah County) said. "Growth must come with responsibility. The POWER Act sends a message to our biggest energy users: if you create the demand, you should pay the cost."

“For years, Oregon households have faced rising electricity costs while data centers—one of the most energy-intensive industries in the state—have dramatically increased their power consumption,” said **Rep. April Dobson**, (D-Happy Valley & N Clackamas County). “This is a matter of fairness. Oregon families and small businesses should not be asked to subsidize rapid data center expansion. I’m encouraged to see these costs being assigned to the industries driving them.”

The proposed rates are now before the Oregon Public Utility Commission for review.

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