

# **ODOE's Energy Strategy**

## **Full List of Legislative and Policy Actions**

### **Cross-cutting Actions**

1. Impose registration and reporting requirements upon all new large electric loads to inform greenhouse gas emissions analyses, and evaluate whether policy changes are needed to bring emissions in line with state policies. This would require an action from the Environmental Quality Commission.
2. Establish and identify a source of funding for a revolving loan fund to provide a stable source of low-cost and no-cost loans to support the energy transition and resilience.
3. Establish a Tribal Energy Block Grant Program to support Tribal energy priorities, cultural values, and community needs through alignment with their own energy planning processes or the Oregon Energy Strategy.
4. Develop a state-wide definition of energy burden that combines household and transportation costs to help inform Oregon's energy transition.
5. Conduct a biennial survey on energy affordability and report on trends to inform state policymaking.
6. Facilitate the sharing of data and joint planning to enhance energy resilience and reliability. The Oregon Department of Energy should identify actions that support the Oregon Energy Security Plan.
7. Identify gaps in current and estimated occupation-level employment to meet Oregon's future energy needs. ODOE should recommend actions to support and expand workforce development efforts that complement existing efforts.
8. Advocate for federal policies that support advancement of state energy objectives.
9. Increase coordination between state agencies and community-based organizations, utilities, Energy Trust of Oregon, and other partners to advance consumer education and facilitate delivery of energy related services.
10. Align the Oregon Economic Development Strategy and the Oregon Energy Strategy through collaboration between Business Oregon and the Oregon Department of Energy to foster decarbonization and economic growth through consideration of industrial symbiosis, clean energy innovation, emerging technologies, and incentives.
11. Increase resources, funding, and staff levels at agencies as needed, and as funding becomes available, to implement actions necessary to advance Oregon's energy policy objectives.

12. Develop a community benefits framework at the Oregon Department of Energy that can be used as appropriate across the agency to address outreach and engagement, workforce needs, prioritizing environmental justice communities, and equitable practices.

## **Transportation**

1. Review Oregon's transportation funding mechanisms, recommend strategies for alignment with the state's energy and climate policy priorities, and identify new revenue sources – particularly to support the deployment of ZEVs and ZEV infrastructure – through a Climate Aligned Transportation Funding Task Force.
2. Implement a Road Usage Charge program for all light-duty passenger vehicles to stabilize transportation funding and support accelerated adoption of zero emission vehicles.
3. Increase statewide support for public and active transportation in Oregon by expanding the statewide payroll tax to fund transit and boosting investments in Safe Routes to School and Great Streets at levels that reflect the scale of community needs.
4. Expand local governments' authority to generate and direct transportation revenues toward climate-aligned transportation infrastructure that meets local needs and priorities.
5. Require investor-owned utilities to publish and maintain interactive, feeder-level Hosting Capacity Maps (HCMs) showing available capacity for EV charging infrastructure, building electrification, distributed generation, and battery storage.
6. Establish a statewide incentive program for both standard and cargo e-bikes, with enhanced incentives and prioritization for income-qualifying Oregonians to ensure equitable access to clean, affordable transportation options.
7. Establish a statewide technical assistance program to support public and private fleets in planning and executing a successful transition to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs).
8. Develop a MHD ZEV Roadmap to guide and accelerate the deployment of medium- and heavy duty zero emission vehicles across the state. The Roadmap should provide actionable insights to inform state policy and investment, support fleet decision-making, and ensure alignment with climate, air quality, and equity goals.
9. Amend DEQ's Clean Fuels Program to extend Advance Crediting eligibility to high-mileage private fleet operators whose vehicles operate predominantly in Oregon.
10. Develop regulations and minimum standards for public heavy-duty hydrogen refueling infrastructure in Oregon. A working group could address key elements such as technical specifications, safety protocols, fuel quality standards, consumer

protection measures, and streamlined permitting processes to ensure that stations are safe, reliable, and accessible. The working group should also establish targets for the carbon intensity of hydrogen supplied at fueling stations and recommend inclusive processes for community engagement in station siting decisions to align with Oregon's climate and equity goals.

## **Buildings**

1. Prioritize existing incentive programs offering essential energy efficiency and weatherization improvements, particularly those focused on low- and moderate-income households.
2. Earmark flexible funding for deferred maintenance measures necessary to enable low- and moderate-income homes to install efficiency and weatherization technologies and measures.
3. Allow higher administrative costs for energy programs that serve or benefit Environmental Justice Communities, to better manage cost shortfalls experienced by programs and projects that benefit the overall system.
4. Prioritize measures in energy efficiency incentive programs that relieve pressure on the power system. In the near term, maintain – and where possible accelerate – building weatherization, replacement of less efficient electric heating with efficient electric heat pumps, rooftop solar and storage, and expand demand flexibility.
5. Advance strategic electrification in buildings in conjunction with other measures that support state decarbonization and resilience goals reliably, affordably, and equitably. Develop a building decarbonization roadmap, led by the Oregon Department of Energy, with recommendations to advance strategic electrification and other decarbonization measures, and as necessary, to provide data and analysis on building decarbonization to inform policies and programs.
6. Update energy efficiency and demand response programs to promote strategic electrification.
7. Continue to update the Oregon Residential Specialty Code and Oregon Energy Efficiency Specialty Code as outlined in HB 3409. Continue progress on energy efficiency and decarbonization requirements for new buildings that complement other actions in this document and include consideration of lower carbon materials and quantification of global warming potential values to realize embodied carbon savings in new construction and existing buildings. The Reach Code should reflect goals for economy wide decarbonization

## **Electricity**

1. Expand the Oregon Department of Energy's statewide energy infrastructure resilience programs, including increasing funding for and amending the Community Renewable Energy Grant Program to support projects that improve energy resilience.
2. The Oregon Public Utility Commission, in coordination with the Department of Energy, should commission an expert review of balanced wildfire utility liability solutions that enable both utility accountability and ongoing customer cost containment, reliability, and decarbonization investments.
3. Review and share key findings with the Legislature regarding near-term transmission needs and opportunities, and identify opportunities for the state to support transmission. ODOE would lead this work and build on it to inform the role that a state transmission entity may play in enabling investment.
4. Update and enhance the Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment Tool, with a goal of providing a robust database of lands that may be suitable for various types of electricity infrastructure projects.
5. Conduct a study on barriers preventing construction and interconnection of permitted projects and recommend actions to overcome barriers.
6. Report on developments in emerging technologies, including long-duration storage options, enhanced geothermal, floating offshore wind, marine energy, and advanced nuclear options, to identify the role they can play in meeting the state's electricity needs; also explore opportunities for pilot programs in the near-term.
7. Study government incentives for local electricity generation investments and identify opportunities for the state to better advance infrastructure needs, economic development and energy justice objectives.
8. Investigate opportunities to modify utility business models and ratemaking practices to enhance marketplace competition and thereby lower costs in utility planning and resource procurements.

### **Industry**

1. Identify and evaluate short and long term decarbonization options for large industrial entities in Oregon.
2. Fund an industrial modernization revolving loan fund to bolster adoption of energy efficiency improvements, electrification of thermal processes, industrial symbiosis, smart manufacturing, and application of low-carbon fuels where electrification is not feasible for large industrial entities.

### **Low-carbon Fuels**

1. Expand access to low-carbon fuels, including assessing opportunities for in-state production, identifying strategies for regional coordination, and establishing safeguards to protect communities and natural resources, through coordination between the Oregon Department of Energy, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and Business Oregon.
2. Support strategic planning and investment by Oregon businesses through a low-carbon fuels deployment roadmap, led by the Oregon Department of Energy, and informed by existing studies, data, analysis, and public partner information and guidance.
3. Research and forecast fuel needs for emergency preparedness to ensure these needs are met as technologies evolve throughout the energy transition. ODOE would work in collaboration with Tribes and public partners across the state.