

April 12, 2017



411 S.W. 2nd Avenue
Suite 200
Portland, OR 97204
503-548-2797
info@progpatty.org

**Oregon Progressive Party
Position on Bill at 2017
Session of Oregon Legislature:**

**SB 908: Support policy change, Oppose creation of new
commission**

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party opposes parts of this bill, which:

- Establishes Oregon Energy Commission as policy and rulemaking body for State Department of Energy.
- Transfers certain duties of State Department of Energy and Director of State Department of Energy to commission.
- Modifies state energy policy.
- Modifies general duties of department.
- Requires department to develop statewide strategic energy plan.
- Requires commission to adopt plan no later than January 1, 2020.
- Requires department to present draft plan to Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2019.
- Requires commission to periodically review and update plan.
- Requires department to provide biennial comprehensive energy report to Governor and Legislative Assembly.

Establishing and funding a new commission seem unnecessary. There already exists an Energy Facility Siting Council to handle that task. The proposed changes to state energy policy are acceptable, particularly the addition of encouraging energy-efficient modes of transportation. As for a biennial energy plan, the Oregon Department of Energy would seem capable of producing that, without the need for a new 5-member commission.

Oregon Progressive Party

Daniel Meek
authorized legal representative
dan@meek.net
503-293-9021

