Regulation: Who Makes the Rules
And How You Can Influence Them
Meeting all new energy demand with **energy efficiency** and new renewable resources.

Full and fair **accounting** for the environmental effects of energy decisions.

Protecting and restoring the **fish and wildlife** of the Columbia River Basin.

Consumer and low-income protection.

Informed **public involvement** in building a clean and affordable energy future.
Questions

- History of Utilities in the NW
- Current Structure/Utility Types
- Who Makes the Rules for Different Kinds of Utilities?
- How to Influence the Rules
- What’s Changing?
History of Power in the Northwest

1889: McMinville Power and Light Est.

1936: Rural Electrification Act

1937: Bonneville Dam Completed

2001: First Tribal utility Oregon
## Types of Utilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profit Structure</th>
<th>Investor Owned Utility (IOUs)</th>
<th>Electric Coop</th>
<th>Public/People’s Utility District (PUD)</th>
<th>Municipal Utility</th>
<th>Tribal Utility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Company</td>
<td>Member Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Community Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Government Entity (city council, or elected body)</td>
<td>Government Entity (arm of Tribal Government); Corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>(shareholder equity, bondholder debt)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulatory Body (Retail)</th>
<th>Investor Owned Utility (IOUs)</th>
<th>Electric Coop</th>
<th>Public/People’s Utility District (PUD)</th>
<th>Municipal Utility</th>
<th>Tribal Utility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utility Commission</td>
<td>Member Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Community Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Government Entity (city council, or elected body)</td>
<td>Government Entity (arm of Tribal Government); Corporation</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who Controls</th>
<th>Investor Owned Utility (IOUs)</th>
<th>Electric Coop</th>
<th>Public/People’s Utility District (PUD)</th>
<th>Municipal Utility</th>
<th>Tribal Utility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owned by shareholders</td>
<td>Member Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Community Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Government Entity (city council, or elected body)</td>
<td>Government Entity (arm of Tribal Government); Corporation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Controlled by CEO, Board of Directors</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>Investor Owned Utility (IOUs)</th>
<th>Electric Coop</th>
<th>Public/People’s Utility District (PUD)</th>
<th>Municipal Utility</th>
<th>Tribal Utility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authorized or required by Utility Commission (funded by ratepayers)</td>
<td>Member Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Community Owned Non-profit</td>
<td>Government Entity (city council, or elected body)</td>
<td>Government Entity (arm of Tribal Government); Corporation</td>
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<td>(funded by ratepayers)</td>
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</table>
Who Makes the Rules?

Bonneville Power Administration

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Oregon Public Utility Commission

Utility Boards and City Councils
Influencing the Rules

**COOPS**

- Utilities care about what their customers think
- Know and understand your utility
  - Type, motivations, governance
  - Coop members have voting rights (know your bylaws)
- Know who makes the decisions and how programs are regulated, approved, and developed.

**IOUS**

- Utilities care about what their customers think
- Know and understand your utility
  - Know who makes the decisions about program/pilot development
- Join the general OPUC docket list to stay on top of rulemakings and other proceedings, follow public meetings, and learn how to engage
What’s Changing: SB 978

2017 Session: SB 978 Passed in Legislature

January-July, 2018: OPUC Public Process

New Legislative Action

September 2018: Final OPUC Report

Internal OPUC Change

Explores how Utilities Are Regulated
What’s Changing: SB 978

OPUC Internal Change

- Retail Customer Options
- Performance-Based Regulation
- Regional Market Development
- Engagement and Inclusion in PUC Processes

Legislative Recommendations

- Climate Change: OPUC lacks a clear mandate to address emissions except as an economic risk. The Legislature has to given indication that GHGs and other effects of can be considered

- Affordability, Equity and Environmental Justice
**What’s Changing: Next Legislative Session**

**Clean Energy Jobs**
- Could create authority for OPUC to include environmental effects/GHGs in its regulatory work

**Equity Elements of SB 978 Report**
- New/expanded intervenor funding for entities that represent or serve low-income and environmental justice communities.
- Low-income and environmental justice advocate position to support low-income ratepayers and those impacted by social and environmental justice issues in matters before the Commission.
- Authorizes the Commission to consider aspects other than cost-of-service in approaching rate design, including energy burden
Further Dialogue

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