



Annual Report of the Oregon Citizens' Utility Board

December 2021

2021 was a deeply rewarding year for CUB. Amidst record-shattering summer heat waves, the continuing COVID-19 crisis, and an uneven economic recovery, CUB won an historic raft of major legislative victories for customers. We helped secure several important protections for those most vulnerable to wildfires and utility shutoffs. And we worked to infuse more and more of our work with the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

For a complete list of CUB's 2021 accomplishments, visit <https://bit.ly/CUBMilestones>.

Keeping Your Utilities *Affordable*

Savings for Utility Customers: Over the course of 2021, CUB saved customers more than \$153,000,000. Whether you live in Ontario, Coos Bay, or Portland, your rates in 2022 will be lower than they would be without CUB's efforts. We ensured that millions of dollars were spent helping customers pay their utility bills. And we have launched an effort to get PGE customers a \$90 million refund.

Equitable Energy Rates: Soon, low-income households can access more affordable energy bills. In 2021, CUB helped pass the Energy Affordability Act

(HB 2475). This law allows regulators to consider equity and income in energy utility rates. CUB will continue to help design these new rates and make energy more affordable.

Utility Shut-Off Moratorium: During the pandemic, CUB worked to keep Oregonians connected to utilities. CUB was instrumental in establishing a shut-off moratorium from fall 2020 to summer 2021. We fought to extend the moratorium, keeping tens of thousands connected. CUB also helped secure \$45 million in relief funds for customers behind on their bills.

Keeping Your Utilities *Accessible*

Communities need a seat at the table to create change that works for everyone. This year, more community groups joined the fight for fair utility regulation. CUB lent our experience and knowledge to help community organizations make an impact. We helped community groups understand and participate in utility regulation. CUB worked in coalitions to equitably expand electric vehicle markets. We joined community groups to determine a just future for natural gas. And CUB worked to reduce climate pollution by advising on the new Clean Fuels Program.



Keeping Your Utilities *Reliable*

Energy When You Need It: CUB continues to work to make sure there is always enough energy for customers. Higher temperatures mean higher peaks of energy use. This year, CUB advised on a new program that will ensure there is enough energy available during periods of high demand. This program, through NW Power Pool, will help utilities share resources across the Northwest.

Preventing Shut-Offs: This year, CUB worked to prevent disconnections. We helped keep Oregon's utility shut-off pause through July. CUB also won better protections after the pause ended, particularly for customers with certain medical needs and for those most vulnerable to wildfires.

Bill Assistance for Low-Income Customers: CUB helped increase bill assistance for low-income customers of PGE and Pacific Power. CUB's advocacy helped pass Oregon HB 2739, increasing funding to the Oregon Energy Assistance Program. This law will raise an additional \$20 million over the next two years.



2021 CUB Conference Spotlights Reliability: CUB hosted our 11th annual conference online on October 15. The program focused on reliability and resilience of Pacific Northwest energy systems in the face of both a changing policy climate and planetary climate change. Panelists included representatives from most of Oregon's major energy utilities as well as regulatory agencies, community organizations and advocates, law firms, and more.



Keeping Your Utilities Clean

PGE Exits Another Coal Plant: Due to CUB’s advocacy, PGE will leave another coal plant. PGE agreed to finish paying off its share of the Colstrip coal plant by 2025. The agreement should save PGE customers millions in expensive new coal contracts and labor costs. This will also stop the economic risk inherent in coal plants.

Idaho Power Exiting Coal Plants: Idaho Power agreed to exit the Valmy coal plant three years early. It will now leave in 2022. CUB also won Idaho Power’s agreement to exit two other coal plants, the Jim Bridger 1 and 2 coal units, in 2022 and 2026 respectively. This puts the company in alignment with co-owner Pacific Power.

100% Clean Electricity: CUB’s biggest legislative victory this year (or any year) was helping pass the 100% Clean Electricity Act (HB 2021). This new law requires the biggest energy utilities to move to 100 percent clean electricity by 2040. To pass this bill, CUB joined the largest and most diverse coalition to have ever supported clean energy legislation in Oregon.

Investing in Electric Vehicles: In 2021, CUB pushed to make electric transportation more accessible for all Oregonians. This fall, regulators looked at changing how utilities plan for electric vehicles. Our goal is to make sure this planning centers community needs. CUB focused on supporting renters, multifamily housing, and small businesses. Regulators will release a new planning framework by the end of 2021. We expect this framework to include many CUB recommendations.



Bob Jenks and other stakeholders stand with Governor Brown as she signs Oregon’s 100% Clean Electricity bill into law

In 2021, CUB members made our work possible through their faithful and generous support. Whether you are a member giving \$5 or \$500, we thank you.

Because of Your Membership in 2021...

Customers saved:

In 2021: \$153,651,871
Since 1984: \$9,087,860,000

Pandemic energy utility relief*:

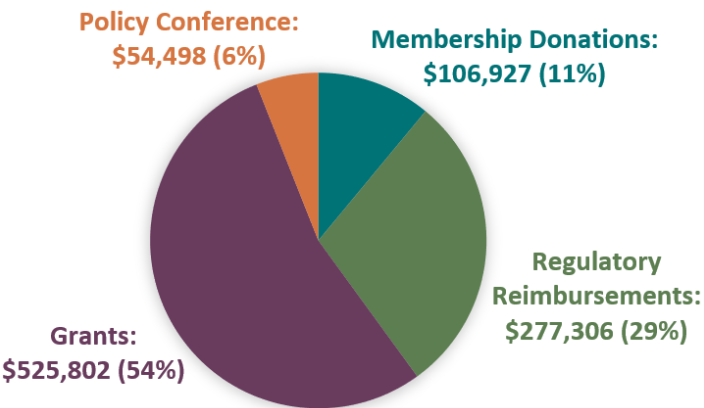
\$44 million in bill relief to Oregon households
83,400 households received relief funds
89,477 residential disconnections prevented

**Projected through December 2021 based on latest available data in November 2021.*

CUB in action:

- 994: Comments submitted by CUB supporters to decision makers
- 42: Regulatory cases CUB challenged on customers’ behalf
- 19: Major regulatory cases in which CUB testified
- 23: Legislative testimonies CUB provided
- 5: Laws passed with CUB support

FY 2020 Income



FY 2020 Expenditures

