



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
OF THE OREGON
CITIZENS' UTILITY BOARD

THE BEAR WINTER 2023 FACTS

DEAR CUB MEMBERS

Next year, CUB will celebrate its 40-year anniversary! For 40 years, CUB has advocated for making your utilities affordable and equitable. Now, we need your support to continue pushing for utilities that work for you and all Oregonians.

Looking ahead to 2024, our staff will continue working hard to advocate for legislation, pushing back on rate increases, and holding utilities accountable. CUB will keep working towards a clean, affordable energy future for all Oregonians.

Will you donate today to support making Oregon's utilities affordable, accessible, reliable, and clean in 2024?

Last year, CUB saved customers over \$224,371,000 million. In 2024, CUB anticipates that multiple utilities will submit plans to raise bills. CUB has serious concerns about how increases will impact customers like you. **CUB will push back against unnecessary rate increases in 2024.**

Oregon is moving towards a clean energy future. Utilities need to show they can meet climate goals. In 2023, we had major wins holding utilities to realistic plans. **In 2024, CUB will hold utilities accountable for realistically meeting climate regulations.**

**CUB has big ambitions for 2024.
We need your support to win big for customers.**

Whether you donate \$5, \$50, or \$500, with your support, we can ensure that all Oregonians have a clean, affordable energy future for generations to come.

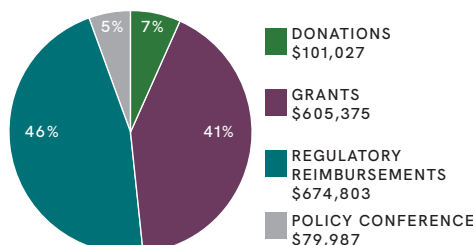


Bob Jenks
Executive Director, Oregon CUB

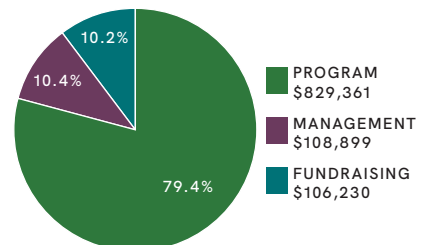
CUB BY THE NUMBERS



2022 REVENUE



2022 EXPENSES





**MAKING UTILITIES
AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE,
RELIABLE, & CLEAN FOR
THE PEOPLE IN OREGON**

**THE BEAR
FACTS**
WINTER
2023

KEEPING YOUR UTILITIES AFFORDABLE



CUB Fights Bill Increases

This year, CUB fought bill increases for customers across Oregon. For Portland General Electric customers in Northwest Oregon, we slashed \$34 million off the requested increase. For Avista Gas customers in Southern and Eastern Oregon, we eliminated subsidies for expanding fossil fuel infrastructure and costs for lobbying and fossil fuel trade associations. Avista also must prioritize non-pipe solutions, saving Oregon from becoming more tied to fossil fuels.

CUB PROTECTS CUSTOMERS FROM WILDFIRE LIABILITY

Over the summer, Pacific Power was found responsible for some of the 2020 Labor Day fires. The utility turned around and made moves to charge customers for the damages. CUB immediately jumped into action to protect Pacific Power customers against potentially billions in costs from wildfire liability. We will continue to push back and hold utilities responsible for wrongdoing.

THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS. CUSTOMERS PAY THE COSTS OF PRUDENT, REASONABLE UTILITY OPERATIONS. THE COURT FOUND THAT PACIFIC POWER WAS RECKLESS AND GROSSLY NEGLIGENT, AND INCLUDED PUNITIVE DAMAGES MEANT TO PUNISH THE COMPANY, NOT CUSTOMERS. CUSTOMERS SHOULD NOT PAY A DIME OF THESE COSTS.

- BOB JENKS
Executive Director

KEEPING YOUR UTILITIES ACCESSIBLE

Expanding Access to Energy-Efficient Homes

This spring, CUB helped pass the Building Resilience Package (HB 3409). More efficient buildings can significantly lower energy bills while making our homes more comfortable. This new CUB-supported law will improve state programs to support electric heat pumps, improve codes for new construction, and add other building efficiency measures.

Building(s) for an Equitable Energy Future 2023 CUB Energy Policy Conference

Each year, CUB brings together community groups, regulators, advocates, and utilities at our annual Energy Policy Conference. By coming together, we help expand who has a voice in energy policy in Oregon.

This year, we made connections between nearly 250 professionals from community advocates, the energy industry, the buildings industry, and policymakers. The conference brought vital perspectives from communities on the front lines of climate change in the Pacific Northwest. Together, we can build an energy transition that works for all of us!





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WINTER 2023

KEEPING YOUR UTILITIES **RELIABLE**

Stronger Protections for Landline Customers

Over the past year, regulators have received complaints about CenturyLink's landline telephone service in Southern Oregon. After months of CUB advocacy, regulators ordered that CenturyLink make major changes to fix service issues.

By working with communities most impacted, we have seen a groundswell of support for holding CenturyLink accountable. The fight is not over and we will continue to push back in 2024!

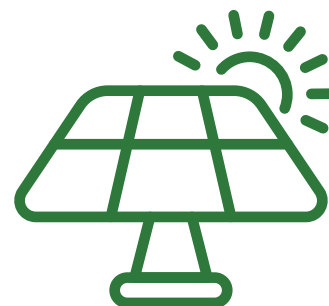


KEEPING YOUR UTILITIES **CLEAN**

Moving Toward 100% Clean Electricity

In 2021, Oregon passed the CUB-supported 100% Clean Electricity Bill. Now, Pacific Power and Portland General Electric must run on 100% clean, emission-free electricity by 2040.

CUB and other advocates weighed in as the electric utilities created their plans. With CUB's urging, regulators have expanded traditional utility planning to include community focuses. Although these Clean Energy Plans are still in progress, CUB is hopeful that we are on the right track. We are continuing to advocate for realistic and cost-effective planning while holding utilities' feet to the fire in 2024.



Regulators Reject NW Natural's Flawed Emissions Reduction Plan

More Gas Utilities' Plans on the Chopping Block in Early 2024

Oregon is moving forward in reducing climate pollution from our energy systems. Utilities need clear plans to show how they will meet regulations without skyrocketing costs for customers.

This year, NW Natural failed to meet both expectations and CUB stood strongly in opposition to the utility's plan. Regulators agreed with CUB and rejected much of NW Natural's flawed plan to reduce emissions. Now, NW Natural must come up with a more reasonable and affordable plan or the company – not customers – could shoulder the compliance costs.

Since that win, Oregon's other two gas utilities have filed plans very similar to NW Natural's. These plans will have long-lasting impacts on meeting state climate goals. They will also have major impacts on future customer bills. While stopping NW Natural's plan was a good first step, we will continue pushing back on plans from the other gas utilities', Avista and Cascade.



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CUB **BOARD**
2023
ELECTION

CUB BOARD ELECTIONS

All ballots must be received in the
CUB office by Friday, January 5, 2024.



Members Choose the CUB Board

According to CUB's bylaws, members of the Board of Governors are elected to four-year terms by CUB's members within each of Oregon's five U.S. Congressional Districts. Candidates must run for a position in the congressional district in which they live. The candidates appearing on this ballot have been certified as living in the districts they seek to represent.

OREGON CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

District 1 - Suzanne Bonamici

Includes all of Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook Counties, most of Washington County excluding the extreme southeast, and a portion of southwest Multnomah County in Portland.

District 2 - Cliff Bentz

Includes all of Baker, Crook, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler counties, all but a small sliver of Jefferson County and the southeastern portions of Deschutes (excluding Bend and areas to its northwest) and Douglas Counties.

District 3 - Earl Blumenauer

Includes most of Multnomah County, including Gresham, Troutdale, and most of Portland east of the Willamette River. It also includes the northeastern part of Clackamas County and all of Hood River County.

District 4 - Val Hoyle

Includes the southern half of Oregon's coastal counties, including Coos, Curry, Lincoln, Lane, and Benton counties, alongside the northwestern half of Douglas County.

District 5 - Lori Chavez-DeRember

Includes a sliver of Multnomah County, the majority of Clackamas County, eastern Marion County, all of Linn County, a small section of southwest Jefferson County, and the northwest portion of Deschutes County.

District 6 - Andrea Salinas

Includes Polk and Yamhill Counties, in addition to portions of Marion, Clackamas, and Washington Counties.



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CUB BOARD CANDIDATES

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DISTRICT 1: MICHAEL MOODY

About Michael

Michael retired from Avangrid Renewables, formerly known as Iberdrola, in October of 2016. At Avangrid he was responsible for sales and marketing activities of renewable energy in Southern California, and throughout the Rocky Mountains; including Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona.

Michael's career in the energy industry has spanned over 30 years and included work in commercial business, marketing, trading, generation, transmission systems, power contracts and fuel procurement. He holds a B. A. from Arizona State University. Michael and his husband live in NW Portland and he represents CUB members in District 1. He enjoys golf, boating, hiking, and is a beginner piano player.



DISTRICT 3: ANKUR DOSHI



About Ankur

Ankur Doshi is the General Counsel for the Oregon State Bar. Previously Ankur worked as an attorney for TriMet and was staff litigation counsel at R.B. Pamplin Corporation. Prior to that, he was a civil rights investigator with the Bureau of Labor and Industries in Oregon.

Ankur received his B.A. in Political Communications from The George Washington University, and his J.D. from Cornell Law School. He lives in Happy Valley with his wife and two children, and represents CUB members in District 3. In his free time, Ankur enjoys tinkering with electronics and computers, cooking, reading, and exploring Portland.



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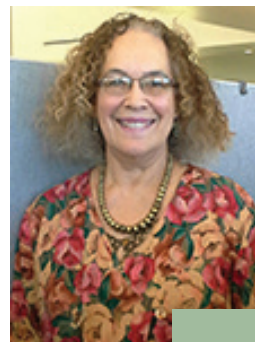
DISTRICT 1: PAMELA PLACENCIA BERRIAN

About Pam

Pam has a 30+ year public and private sector history in social services, economic development, legislative advocacy, grants management, public rights of way advocacy, and telecommunications program management.

Pam has held leadership roles in both the Oregon Chapter and the national board of National Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) and is a long-time member of the American Public Works Association. She was a 4-year member of the Governor-appointed Oregon Telecommunications Coordinating Council. She was a 4-year appointee of the US Department of Interior to the BLM grants advisory committee for the Lane-Linn-Benton region, disbursing grants for critical water and land improvement projects.

Pam is a past recipient of an Oregon Connections Broadband Project Team Award and the Edwin B. Parker Enduring Achievement Award. Pam is a long-time Planning Committee member of the Oregon Connections Telecommunications Conference. She holds a Master of Arts in Social Psychology from the University of California, Davis. Pam and her husband Jeff Johnston are long-time Eugeneans and enjoy everything outdoors, RV jaunts, photography, their 10'x30' HO Scale Railroad layout, and above all, seeing their grandchildren as often as possible.



CUB BOARD RECRUITMENT

Nominate Yourself or Others for the CUB Board

Know someone who might be a good fit for the CUB Board of Directors? Let us know! Email your nomination to officemanager@oregoncub.org with a brief description of why you think this person would make a great board member.

About the CUB Board

CUB's Board of Directors advises our team and oversees the organization. CUB's Board of Directors represents people across the state of Oregon.



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CUB **BOARD**
2023
ELECTION

CUB BALLOT

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DISTRICT 1:

☐

Michael Moody

☐

Write in: _____

DISTRICT 3:

☐

Ankur Doshi

☐

Write in: _____

DISTRICT 4:

☐

Pamela Placencia Berrian

☐

Write in: _____

VOTE FOR THE BOARD

In order to vote you must:

- Be a current CUB member (donation of \$5 or more in the last year)
- Live in the congressional district of the candidate for whom you are voting.

If your membership has lapsed, you can join by sending a donation of \$5 or more with your ballot in the attached envelope.

Vote only for the candidate in your district

Cut on Dotted Lines and Return Ballot to CUB in the enclosed envelope. All ballots must be received in the CUB office by Friday, January 5, 2024.

Don't See Your District?

No Need to Vote!

Ballots are sent to all recent and current CUB members. If you do not see a candidate listed in your district, you do not need to vote in this election.



OREGON CUB
610 SW BROADWAY, SUITE 400
PORTLAND, OR 97205

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2023 IN REVIEW

CUB ANNUAL REPORT

Join us in celebrating another successful year of work at CUB! As we reach the final stretch of 2023, there are many victories to celebrate. Your support this year helped advance our work to make Oregon's utilities affordable, accessible, reliable, and clean.

**CUB's work saved Oregon customers
\$224,371,000 million this year**

809

Testimony
from CUB
Supporters

15

Bills Passed
in the Oregon
Legislature

1,518

CUB
Members

\$9.8B

Total Saved
for Since
1984

Read more inside to see what CUB did for
Oregon utility customers in 2023!



**Oregon Citizens'
Utility Board**

**THE BEAR
FACTS**
WINTER
2023