

February 27, 2025

Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council Attn: Chase McVeigh-Walker (VIA EMAIL) 550 Capitol Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Energy Facility Siting Council Members,

Umatilla Electric Cooperative (UEC) has proven to be a valuable partner for the City of Boardman by consistently investing in infrastructure to support economic progress in the region. The Umatilla-Morrow County Connect (UMCC) Project will expand UEC's transmission system to increase reliability, provide a transmission path for renewable energy across the region, and establish an electrical grid capable of meeting the increasing demand for not only the City of Boardman, but for our other local communities and businesses, as well.

As UEC prepares to submit their Application for Site Certificate (ASC) to the Oregon Department of Energy, it's important to note that the investment in the infrastructure will allow businesses operating in eastern Oregon to be well-equipped for continuous advancement. The Umatilla-Morrow County Connect Project maximizes the industrial development potential of the region while supporting community partners.

As the Mayor of the City of Boardman, and representing the City Council, we are in support of the Umatilla-Morrow County Connect Project and look forward to seeing the benefits that this project will provide to the region.

Sincerely,

Mayor Paul Keefer City of Boardman, Oregon