International Union of Operating Engineers

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JAMES ANDERSON **Business Manager & Financial Secretary**

Jan. 10, 2025

Marisha Childs Oregon Office of Administrative Hearings 1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 3100 Portland, OR 97201

Subject: Support for Portland General Electric's Harborton Reliability Project (Case #4240019) LU 24-041109 CU EN GW

Marisha Childs:

I am writing today as the Assistant Business Manager and Chair of the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee for the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 701 (IUOE) to express our support for Portland General Electric's (PGE) application for the Harborton Reliability Project. IUOE Local 701 has nearly 4,000 heavy equipment operators and stationary members in Oregon and SW Washington, many of whom would secure work on the Harborton project.

IUOE Local 701 has vested interest in seeing the Harborton Reliability Project succeed, as the project will provide work for thousands of union workers in the region, including apprentices who could gain the necessary hours to journey out on this project.

PGE has proven itself to be a reliable and reputable company in adopting and maintaining high labor standards, particularly through its Responsible Contractor Policy, which requires high-road labor standards on all major infrastructure projects. This policy is a nearly unprecedented move by a private company and shows PGE's good faith commitment to bettering the local community through its work.

Beyond job growth, the Harborton Reliability Project will stimulate immense economic growth in Portland and further our progress towards meeting city and state climate goals. As Oregon prepares several renewable energy projects to proceed, we are acutely aware of our need for new transmission capacity to

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accompany these energy strides. The Harborton Reliability Project is a critical opportunity to ensure the billions of dollars and thousands of hours poured into renewable energy projects do not go to waste by ensuring that energy can be transported and disseminated.

The denial of PGE's application for the Harborton Reliability Project would be a denial of economic stimulation for the region and much-needed jobs. Further, denying this project affects our city's reputation for future companies looking to bring jobs and economic growth to our community, potentially causing them to look elsewhere at a time where renewable energy growth and large employers are desperately needed. We strongly urge the approval of this application.

Sincerely, Nate Stokes Asst. Business Manager & JATC Chair IUOE Local 701