

**From:** [Serra, John](#)  
**To:** [Hearings Office Clerks](#)  
**Subject:** PGE Letter of Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2025 4:05:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [PGE Harborton Reliabilty Project LoS -- TriMet.pdf](#)

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To whom it may concern:

Please see the attached letter on behalf of TriMet in support of PGE's efforts to modernize our power transmission infrastructure. Please let us know if anything additional is needed.

Thank you,  
John



**John Serra** He/Him  
Regional Government Affairs  
TriMet  
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97204  
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January 15, 2025

Marisha Childs  
City of Portland Land Use Hearings Officer  
1900 SW Fourth Avenue  
Suite 3100.  
Portland, OR 97201

Portland Hearings Office  
Case #4240019  
Bureau Case #LU 24-041109 CU EN GW  
Exhibit #52  
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Subject: Support for Portland General Electric's Harborton Reliability Project (LU 24-041109 CU EN GW).

Dear Ms. Childs,

I am writing on behalf of TriMet to express our support for the modernization of this region's antiquated transmission infrastructure. As the primary transit provider in the Portland metro region, TriMet is the backbone of our public transportation system, providing more than 65 million rides per year on bus and light rail. Our system provides an essential service by connecting our community, and to maintain it we rely on a resilient and reliable energy grid that powers our MAX Light Rail system and supports the electrification of our growing Zero-Emissions Bus Fleet.

The modernization of our power infrastructure is essential to the resiliency of our transportation system, and without necessary upgrades, transit will be particularly vulnerable. In the coming years, the age and condition of the system will leave transit, and this city, at the risk of rolling blackouts during the extreme weather events that will continue to become more commonplace. As heat waves and ice storms become even more severe, we expect a higher likelihood of outages during peak demand if utilities are not able to make critical investments in the energy grid. This will jeopardize TriMet's ability to provide vital service to our community at the exact moments when it is needed most.

The long-term viability of our transmission system is also fundamental to our clean energy future. TriMet MAX trains are powered by 100% renewable electricity, and we are early in the process of transitioning from diesel-fueled buses into an entire fleet of Zero-Emissions buses. Our work to decarbonize the transit system has made us a global leader in transportation sustainability and the fight against climate change. However, to continue that fight we rely on a modernized power grid that can support our growing need for electricity generated from sustainable sources. Without access to a resilient source of electricity, these programs will not be possible and our goals for regional sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions will remain out of reach.

At TriMet, we have been fortunate to partner with a city as forward-thinking as Portland, which has supported our agency's work to boldly meet the needs of this community and our common future. We ask that you extend this support to the necessary modernization of this region's power transmission infrastructure so that we can ensure the reliability and sustainability of public transit for years to come.

Sincerely,



JC Vannatta  
Executive Director of Public Affairs

CC: Mayor Keith Wilson  
Portland City Council

Portland Hearings Office  
Case #4240019  
Bureau Case #LU 24-041109 CU EN GW  
Exhibit #52  
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