



October 13, 2026

Charles Koutras
City of Portland Hearings Officer
1221 SW 4th Ave.
Portland, OR 97204

Subject: Portland General Electric Harborton Reliability Project

Land Use Case: LU 26-051203 CU EN GW [Hearings Officer Case Number: 4260012]

Dear Mr. Koutras,

The Home Building Association of Greater Portland supports PGE's Harborton Reliability Project. This project is vital to allow for the continued development of housing, of all types, within Portland's city limits as we seek to address an ongoing housing crisis across the city, region, and state.

Our association represents home producers in the residential construction industry across the entire metro region. As Portland continues to face housing affordability and supply challenges, it is critical that housing development be supported by reliable infrastructure that can serve both existing and future residents.

North and Northwest Portland continue to be important areas for new residential development. Mixed-use growth in Slabtown is resulting in new homes, businesses, and residents in the area. Further north, neighborhoods such as St. Johns are adding middle housing and infill development that increase housing opportunities for Portland residents. As these communities continue to grow, the infrastructure serving them must remain reliable and capable of meeting their long-term needs.

The Harborton Reliability Project will strengthen the transmission system serving North and Northwest Portland, helping maintain reliable electric service during periods of peak demand and system stress. By upgrading existing infrastructure and strengthening the transmission network, the project will address a recognized reliability need and support reliable service for homes, businesses, schools, and critical facilities.

Home Building Association of Greater Portland
15555 SW Bangy Road, Ste. 301 | Lake Oswego, OR 97035
503.684.1880 | www.hbapdx.org

We appreciate the thoughtful work that has gone into shaping this application through years of study, public engagement, and collaboration among PGE, the City of Portland, and community stakeholders. This application includes additional environmental protections, wildfire resilience measures, and other enhancements that reflect feedback received throughout the review process while continuing to address a vital reliability need.

HBA supports investments in critical infrastructure that help accommodate new housing options, maintain reliable electric service, and support the long-term safety and success of Portland's communities. We respectfully encourage approval of the Harborton Reliability Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Hemson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ben Hemson
Government Affairs Director
Home Building Association of Greater Portland
benh@hbapdx.org