

Interchurch Center, Suite B » 0245 SW Bancroft Street » Portland, Oregon 97239
phone (503) 221-1054 » fax (503) 223-7007 » Web site www.emoregon.org

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CONTACT: Jenny Holmes, Environmental Ministries director,
(503) 221-1054, ext. 214, or (971) 219-3943

Oregon Interfaith Power & Light applauds vote on historic clean energy and climate protection bill

Portland, Ore. — On June 26, the U.S. House of Representatives passed, “The American Clean Energy and Security Act,” a historic bill that will help build a new clean energy economy and launch the first national plan of action to address the growing threat of climate change. The bill combines a declining cap on global warming pollution with support for renewable energy and standards and incentives for improving energy efficiency.

“We are grateful to Representatives Schrader, Wu and Blumenauer for doing the right thing and standing up for God’s Creation,” said Jenny Holmes, director of Oregon Interfaith Power & Light (OIPL), a project of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO). “Congregations and people of faith throughout Oregon are working to be good stewards of energy in our homes and houses of worship, but we know we can’t do it alone. We need a public policy shift to help us avert the worst impacts of climate change and move our nation to a clean energy economy. That’s why the passage of this historic legislation is such good news.”

“This is a moral issue and one that should concern all people who believe we have a responsibility to be good stewards of Creation,” said The Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, president of the Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) national campaign.

The bill is scheduled to begin its process in the Senate immediately following the August recess. OIPL and the national IPL campaign plan to follow the Senate climate bill closely and share moral and ethical perspectives on it.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon’s (EMO) Oregon Interfaith Power & Light project engages the faith community to strive for accountability in our individual and collective energy decisions in an interdependent world. EMO is a statewide association of Christian denominations—including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies—congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.

MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church » American Baptist Churches of Oregon » Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) » Christian Methodist Episcopal Church » Church of the Brethren » Community of Christ
Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon » Episcopal Diocese of Oregon » Evangelical Lutheran Church in America » Greek Orthodox Church » Presbyterian Church (USA)—Presbytery of the Cascades
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) » Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland » United Church of Christ » United Methodist Church » Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches