

Talent Comprehensive Plan, Element J

CLEAN ENERGY ELEMENT

[Adopted by Ord. No. XXX; Effective XXX]

INTRODUCTION

Resolving the challenges that climate change pose to our local economy, community, and quality of life, will require significant changes to our overall approach to energy. Over the last few years, cities around the globe have taken the initiative to change their sources of energy and how they use it. Local governments have an indispensable role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, in developing a new approach to community transportation systems and buildings, in helping individuals make informed choices about their energy use, and in shaping local policy to fulfill these roles. Furthermore, sustainable practices and projects need to be encouraged in a way that not only does not negatively impact low-income residents, but brings benefits to low-income residents.

With the support of Rogue Climate, a group of Talent residents assembled to create a Clean Energy Action Plan, with the hope that an adopted action plan would be incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Plan. Following a community envisioning workshop in October 2015, over a dozen volunteers came together to develop the Talent Clean Energy Action Plan 2018-2030 CEAP 2030 (*see Appendix A*). To help spearhead the Plan's efforts, the same volunteers also created a Year One Action Plan (*see Appendix B*). These volunteers labored over 1,000 hours to consult with subject matter experts, other cities and towns, and to do the research that resulted in the creation and presentation of the Plan in November of 2016 to the Talent City Council. The goals of the 2030 Plan are to increase energy efficiency in existing and new buildings and to utilize renewable energy sources for 100% of Talent's power. This reduction on overall energy consumption will increase the resiliency of local power supplies while generating local economic activity. The 2030 Plan contains both clearly implementable, short-term actions that can take advantage of existing programs and opportunities, as well as longer-term strategies that will require substantial research on their feasibility.

The following Energy Element is heavily inspired by the content of the Talent Clean Energy Action Plan 2018-2030 and is recognized as the City of Talent's official policy document for implementing the goals and actions of the CEAP. With respect for standard planning practice, the Talent Energy Element has been written with an intended implementation period of 20 years which is why the timeline for the Energy Element's implementation is not aligned with the timeline of the Clean Energy Action Plan that inspired it.

Prior to the creation of this document, the City of Talent has implemented significant actions which embrace the conservation of energy in its operations and infrastructure. These efforts include a successful transition of over half of its streetlight supply to LED bulbs, the installation of a 15.7 kW solar PV system on the roof of its Community Center, enrollment of six of its facilities in the Energy Trust of Oregon's Strategic Energy Management program to realize 5% annual reductions in electricity and gas usage, the acquisition of Talent's first public electric

vehicle charging station, and three years of committed funding to a full-time, contracted Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) AmeriCorps participant to serve as the City's Energy Efficiency Coordinator. These actions mark the beginning of a long and diligent commitment to greater energy conservation and to the increased use of renewable energy. Finally, this document will require updates every couple of years due to the fast-past development of renewable technologies and growing understanding of sustainable practices.

Policy 1: Energy Efficiency & Conservation (EE&C): It is the policy of the City to reduce the consumption of electricity and natural gas by 30%¹ based on 2015 energy consumption levels by advancing the adoption of conservation measures and the installation of more efficient technologies in existing and new residential, commercial, industrial and municipal buildings.

Objective 1.1: Increase public awareness of and access to existing energy efficiency and conservation programs.

Implementation Strategy 1.1a: Educate all Talent residents and businesses on existing EE&C programs and resources through effective and appropriate public information channels, outlets, presentations and meetings while prioritizing low-income areas and manufactured home neighborhoods.

Implementation Strategy 1.1b: Partner with and support community groups and associations in coordinating campaigns and scheduling events to encourage homeowners, property and facility managers, renters and landlords to develop plans, identify resources and benefits, and implement action to increase EE&C in the residential sector.

Objective 1.2: Demonstrate a commitment to EE&C policy and practice in municipal buildings, on City-owned lands, and in City-owned vehicles.

Implementation Strategy 1.2a: Perform energy audits for City-owned buildings every two years to establish energy use benchmarks and report progress to City Council and on the City's website.

Implementation Strategy 1.2b: Set site-specific goals to reduce energy use in municipal buildings that incorporate energy management, efficiency-related upgrades and conservation policies.

Implementation Strategy 1.2c: Transition all municipal buildings and street lighting to more energy efficient technologies, such as LED lamps, that adhere to International Dark Sky Association lighting recommendations in a financially responsible and timely manner.

¹ A target reduction of 30% was inspired by findings contained in the 2011 *Renewable Energy Assessment for Jackson and Josephine Counties*. A reduction of electricity and natural gas use by 30% is proportionate to the Assessment's estimated maximum potential energy savings for energy efficiency projects across both counties. The Assessment was contracted by the Rogue Valley Council of Governments, Jackson County Soil & Water Conservation District, Energy Trust of Oregon, the City of Ashland, and the GEOS Institute and was performed by Good Company.

Implementation Strategy 1.2d: All new city buildings, or new construction on City-owned property, will be designed and constructed to achieve net zero site energy, as defined by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Implementation Strategy 1.2e: Conduct a feasibility analysis regarding the transitioning of the municipal motorized vehicle fleet from fossil-fuel power to renewable energy power.

Implementation Strategy 1.2f: Encourage the Phoenix-Talent school district, and other public entities such as the Talent Irrigation District or District 5 Fire Department to set goals and policy to reduce energy consumption for each of its buildings that include energy management systems, conservation and efficiency upgrades.

Implementation Strategy 1.2g: Collaborate with Phoenix-Talent school district, and other public entities such as the Talent Irrigation District or District 5 Fire Department, to identify ways to fund energy conservation and efficiency projects through avenues such as the public purpose fund.

Implementation Strategy 1.2h: Collaborate with the Phoenix-Talent school district, and other public entities such as the Talent Irrigation District or District 5 Fire Department, to develop methods for regularly monitoring and sharing progress with Talent residents on energy and cost savings. Avenues for sharing progress could include articles in the Talent News & Review, paper water bill inserts and the City's website.

Objective 1.3: Develop and adopt an outdoor lighting ordinance that defines energy efficiency exterior lighting standards for all land uses.

Implementation Strategy 1.3a: Work with appropriate community organizations to develop an outdoor lighting ordinance for residential, commercial and municipal land uses. Lighting standards may adhere to existing recommendations on energy efficient lighting such as the International Dark Sky Association's outdoor lighting recommendations for energy efficient lighting products and practices.

Objective 1.4: Increase efficiency of existing residential, commercial and municipal buildings to achieve energy savings of 30% compared to 2015 consumption levels through education, retrofits, and renovations.

Implementation Strategy 1.4a: Promote and support outreach, programs and incentives to audit existing structures and present cost-benefit analyses of implementing energy efficient measures. Additionally, provide relevant financing options or no-cost eligibility programs, such as the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance program, to audited building owners to encourage the implementation of suggested improvements.

Implementation Strategy 1.4b: Promote programs and incentives for energy audits in existing commercial and industrial buildings and present cost-benefit analyses of implementing energy efficient measures with relevant financing options to audited

building owners to encourage the implementation of suggested improvements. Partner with organizations and agencies, such as the Energy Trust of Oregon and the Oregon Department of Energy to ensure all Talent businesses learn about existing energy saving incentives for efficient appliances and other energy saving technologies.

Implementation Strategy 1.4c: Develop a partnership and outreach program with the Talent Chamber of Commerce to promote EE&C practices, programs and resources for existing commercial and industrial businesses in Talent. Develop a recognition program for businesses who are pursuing energy conservation or efficiency measures and building designs, such as interior lighting upgrades, HVAC replacements or exterior lighting upgrades that adhere to energy saving lighting standards. Develop objective criteria for businesses to be recognized. Review business's activities every two years. For instance, recognition could be given with the distribution of a designed physical and digital logo that could be placed on the business's building as a sticker or on their website.

Implementation Strategy 1.4d: Develop educational materials that would inform current homeowners on the potential energy savings of complying with the Oregon Residential Specialty Code and the Oregon Reach Code provided by the Oregon Building Codes Division.

Implementation Strategy 1.4g: Work with community groups to implement an incandescent-to-LED lightbulb replacement program for residents.

Implementation Strategy 1.4h: Increase awareness of energy management systems as an option for residential and commercial building owners to more effectively track energy usage and change habits accordingly.

Implementation Strategy 1.4i: Zoning code audit to remove barriers that prohibit energy efficiency or renewable energy developments to be built in historical district.

Objective 1.5: Encourage building designs that surpass the minimum energy code provisions of the current statewide building code for all new construction, including additions.

Implementation Strategy 1.5a: Support state and national green building certification programs by developing educational materials that would be made available to developers and builders on the City's website and in the Community Development office.

Implementation Strategy 1.5b: Develop an incentive program that encourages residential developers and builders to meet the standards and guidelines of state or national green building programs that exceed minimum structural code provisions for residential energy efficiency mandated by the State of Oregon Building Codes Division.

Implementation Strategy 1.5c: Develop an incentive program that encourages commercial developers and builders to meet the standards and guidelines of state or national green building programs that exceed minimum structural code provisions for commercial energy efficiency mandated by the State of Oregon Building Codes Division.

Implementation Strategy 1.5e: Develop regulations that promote energy conserving site designs, including the revision of landscape ordinances to promote the use of strategic vegetation planting to aid in energy conservation.

Objective 1.6: Pursue the objectives of the Talent Housing Element that encourage the development of small-scale, affordable dwellings that utilize energy-efficient building materials and contribute to land use development patterns that conserve energy.

Implementation Strategy 1.6a: Pursue Objective 3.1b of the Talent Housing Element by evaluating the development of a cottage house ordinance.

Implementation Strategy 1.6b: Pursue Objective 3.1c of the Talent Housing Element by evaluating the development of a tiny house ordinance.

Implementation Strategy 1.6c: Pursue Objective 4.5 of the Talent Housing Element by developing density bonus regulations that create incentive for housing projects that incorporate the use of energy efficient or otherwise environmentally sustainable building materials in affordable housing projects.

Objective 1.7: Develop and maintain educational opportunities in various community spaces that provide information on how to achieve greater energy efficiency.

Implementation Strategy 1.7a: Work with the Energy Trust of Oregon to provide content to residents and business owners with information on how to achieve greater energy efficiency in their buildings.

Implementation Strategy 1.7b: Investigate the feasibility of leveraging a sponsorship from Energy Trust of Oregon to develop opportunities in public spaces for community members to increase their understanding of potential energy savings that can be accomplished in their homes. Examples of opportunities include hosting a light bulb cost comparison display or a digital kiosk with an internet connection to provide visitors the opportunity to order Energy Trust's Energy Saver Kits or to estimate their carbon footprint. Locations of displays could include the annual Harvest Festival, the Talent Library and local businesses, at peak customer times.

Implementation Strategy 1.7c: Establish an annual procedure to acquire community wide energy use data from utility providers and make data accessible to community members, illustrating a month-to-month breakdown of energy consumption by sector with comparison to 2015 energy consumption levels. The illustrative data could be made accessible on the City's website, by direct mail through water bill inserts, and/or an informational kiosk the City Hall.

Implementation Strategy 1.7d: Encourage utility providers to develop a system for energy end users to compare their energy use to previous years.

Policy 2: Energy Generation: The City will encourage the acquisition of clean and renewable energy sources that help Talent reach 100% independence from fossil-fuel energy sources by 2030 while attempting to keep energy prices affordable and preserving our rural quality of life.

Objective 2.1: Provide ongoing information and guidance to residents and business owners about the value and benefits of renewable energy including practical tools for implementation.

Implementation Strategy 2.1a: Seek and develop a collaborative relationship with public, private and volunteer groups across Jackson County to develop resources and opportunities for the public and businesses to learn about the costs and benefits of renewable energy including traditional and creative financing models (e.g. tax credits, power purchase agreements, revolving loan funds). Partner organizations may include the Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG), other incorporated municipalities, Jackson County Health and Human Services, businesses, Rogue Climate, Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN), and the Energy Trust of Oregon.

Implementation Strategy 2.1b: Encourage and, if necessary, provide appropriate support to the Phoenix-Talent school district's Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) program to create and make available educational resources on the environmental and economic benefits of renewable energy to all STEAM-enrolled students.

Implementation Strategy 2.1c: Encourage the Phoenix-Talent school district to develop elementary, junior-high, and high school curricula on common renewable energy technologies and the associated environmental benefits of clean energy generation.

Implementation Strategy 2.1d: Using 2015 data as the baseline, regularly inform, at least annually, City Council and the community on progress towards greater acquisition of clean and renewable energy sources in Talent using appropriate public information channels.

Implementation Strategy 2.1e: Provide step-by-step guidance to city residents and business owners who are seeking assistance on how to develop renewable energy projects.

Objective 2.2: Foster the creation of community solar² projects with a goal of ensuring that renewable energy opportunities are available to all residents, including low- and moderate-income homeowners, and renters.

Implementation Strategy 2.2a: Investigate the feasibility and legal requirements of the City providing partial financing for a cooperatively-owned or subscriber-based

² As stated in Senate Bill 1547, the 78th Oregon Legislative Assembly defines community solar as “one or more solar photovoltaic energy systems that provide owners and subscribers the opportunity to share the costs and benefits associated with the generation of electricity by the solar photovoltaic energy systems”. This definition is being used for its generality. In the context of this document, ‘community solar’ is being used as a broad term to describe all project models that are legal in the state of Oregon. This term is not solely describing the Community Solar program enacted by Senate Bill 1547.

community solar project that demonstrates the ability of community solar to remove physical and financial barriers for residents and businesses to owning and directly benefitting from solar power generation.

Implementation Strategy 2.2b: Identify potential sites (e.g. public buildings, commercial roofs, and parking lots) as suitable locations for community solar installations. Investigate zoning codes that might need to be amended to accommodate such solar development.

Implementation Strategy 2.2c: Perform a feasibility analysis for the creation of an energy storage facility, or multiple facilities, that would store energy produced by community solar systems. Such a facility would be intended to provide power to all project subscribers during periods of low energy production from solar arrays and during power outages.

Implementation Strategy 2.2d: Partner with local solarize³ projects to provide community members with information on the benefits of community solar projects, common financing models, and required pre-development processes.

Implementation Strategy 2.2e: Investigate providing financial support to local groups who are supporting community solar installations or solarize projects.

Objective 2.3: Facilitate the use of renewable energy generation technologies in new residential and commercial developments.

Implementation Strategy 2.3a: Create an incentive program for developers to include solar on their buildings.

Implementation Strategy 2.3b: Prioritize the transition of all City property, including buildings, vehicles, etc., to utilize clean, renewable energy.

Implementation Strategy 2.3c: Identify grants or other funding sources to assist the participation of low- and moderate-income households in renewable energy projects.

Implementation Strategy 2.3d: Develop a solar-ready requirement for developers.

Objective 2.4: Develop a procedure to ensure that energy projects or contracts, both public and private, are consistent with the Energy Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Objective 2.5: Determine the renewable energy generation potential of Talent by identifying all possible locations (residential, businesses, land) for renewables that comply with applicable building codes and zoning codes.

³ Grassroot group-purchasing model that enables residents or businesses to collectively identify a solar installer and secure a discounted rate on the purchase and installation of solar arrays.

Objective 2.6: Ensure zoning codes are in line with best practices for climate adaptation, energy generation and livability.

Objective 2.7: Advocate by resolution or other means, at the state and regional level for policies that expedite the transition to renewable energy in a way that benefits all and promotes low- and moderate- income communities, communities of color, and community-controlled energy.

Policy 3: Energy Resiliency: Identify and acquire renewable energy sources and storage options for City of Talent and its residents.

Objective 3.1: Educate Talent residents and business owners on the benefits of energy resilience including renewable energy paired with a reliable back-up storage source.

Implementation Strategy 3.1a: Partner with knowledgeable community organizations to develop and distribute resources that explain the benefits of and practical measures to install alternative energy systems.

Implementation Strategy 3.1b: Identify effective public channels for communicating energy resiliency practices and resources with Talent residents and business owners.

Objective 3.2: Diversify energy sources and locations within Talent and surrounding areas to reduce community dependence on regional grid.

Implementation Strategy 3.2a: Conduct land use analysis for potential siting of renewable energy systems that could supply a microgrid.

Implementation Strategy 3.2b: Identify the feasibility of contracting or partnering with another municipality that is capable of distributing power to Talent.

Implementation Strategy 3.2c: Ensure that all future public infrastructure planning considers and plans for the potential development of microgrids.

Objective 3.3: Develop local backup energy sources for critical facilities and vulnerable residents to provide power in times of power outage.

Implementation Strategy 3.3a: Develop and prioritize a listing of critical infrastructure that requires power for operation.

Implementation Strategy 3.3b: Adopt new and amended Emergency Operations Plan with policies ensuring that all publicly-owned buildings have site-specific backup energy plans that primarily utilize local renewable energy sources.

Implementation Strategy 3.3c: Identify communities and residents that are most vulnerable⁴ to power outages.

Implementation Strategy 3.3d: Develop the infrastructure for portable energy backups to those identified in Implementation Strategy 3.3c.

Objective 3.4: Develop local energy storage providing supplemental power in times of power outage and inexpensive power during peak usage.

Implementation Strategy 3.4a: Conduct a feasibility analysis to determine site location, construction cost and possible funding sources.

Objective 3.5: Build energy alliances and partnerships with other municipalities, private businesses and stakeholders to foster energy resilience across the region.

Policy 4: Local Economy: Strengthen Talent's economy by keeping dollars spent and dollars saved on energy local. Local priority defined as within 1) City of Talent, 2) the Rogue basin, 3) adjacent counties.

Objective 4.1: Conduct an energy economic opportunity analysis of local opportunities for energy conservation, efficiency and generation.

Implementation Strategy 4.1a: Calculate the potential short- and long-term social, environmental and economic benefits of implementing the Energy Element, including costs savings and the economic value of local employment.

Objective 4.2: Recruit and attract sustainable businesses who implement a business strategy that focuses on the ethical, social, environmental, cultural, and economic dimensions of doing business to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Implementation Strategy 4.2a: Develop building zones, permits, zoning policies and incentives for sustainable businesses and developments that are consistent in practice with the Talent Comprehensive Plan, specifically the Housing and Economic Elements.

Objective 4.3: Recognize Talent businesses that are leaders in clean energy and energy efficiency. Refer to Implementation Strategy 1.4c.

Objective 4.4: Transition from the current Investor-Owned Utility model to a Consumer-Owned Utility or Community Choice Aggregation model (see appendix X).

Implementation Strategy 4.4a: Conduct a feasibility analysis to determine the most appropriate model for Talent.

Implementation Strategy 4.4b: If feasible, initiate the legal process, as defined by Oregon statutes, for implementing the selected model.

Objective 4.5: Utilize a community benefits model which considers other values and benefits besides lowest responsible bidder for the overall evaluation of awarding contracts proposal requests for city energy efficiency or renewable energy projects.

Objective 4.6: Encourage the development of a skilled energy workforce in Talent.

Implementation Strategy 4.6a: Partner with regional higher education institutions, local unions, Talent Maker City, and STEAM programs in the Phoenix-Talent school district to promote apprenticeship, internships and mentor programs.

Implementation Strategy 4.6b: Partner with community groups who advocate for increased workforce training opportunities in Talent especially for communities that have historically not been included in the trades, i.e. women and people of color.

Implementation Strategy 4.6c: Develop incentives for businesses that offer training programs.

Objective 4.7: Create a full-time energy manager position working for the city.

Policy 5: Transportation: The City shall encourage lower emission transportation options to reduce the energy needed to travel throughout the Rogue Valley, support sustainable development goals and to comply with Oregon's future transportation requirements.

Objective 5.1: Develop a government vehicle retirement and replacement program.

Implementation Strategy 5.1a: Conduct a city fleet audit to set a policy and targets for EV and higher-efficiency city vehicles.

Objective 5.2: Develop and implement residential and businesses incentives for hybrid, Electric Vehicles (EV) and Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV).

Implementation Strategy 5.2a: Strategically locate EV charging stations for public access.

Implementation Strategy 5.2b: Develop hybrid, EV and ZEV only parking spaces to encourage residents to purchase more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Implementation Strategy 5.2c: Develop strategies to expand access to EV and ZEV to low-income residents and communities.

Objective 5.3: Develop and implement a new homes and buildings ordinance which requires new developments being built within the city to have EV-ready wiring.

Objective 5.4: Improve public transportation and car sharing programs.

Implementation Strategy 5.4a: Work with surrounding municipalities and the Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD) to increase access to public transportation between cities.

Implementation Strategy 5.4b: Support car sharing programs for Talent residents.

Implementation Strategy 5.4c: Work with RVTD to create incentives to expand our Park & Ride program.

Objective 5.5: Develop a citywide bike and pedestrian plan to ensure safe travel for no emission transportation options.

Implementation Strategy 5.5a: Identify and develop areas that need bike lanes and pedestrian walkways.

Implementation Strategy 5.5b: Develop policies which requires that future developments incorporate sufficient access to bike lanes and pedestrian walkways.

Implementation Strategy 5.5c: Develop strategies to increase access to bicycles and similar modes of transportation to low-income residents and communities.

~~Appendix #: Types of Utility Providers: Investor-Owned Utility, Consumer-Owned Utility, Federal Power Marketing Administration and Community Choice Aggregation.~~

~~Introduction:~~

~~There are multiple ways that electricity and natural gas can be managed by a utility company in a state, region, city or neighborhood. Several types of utility models are described below and with examples of each. Investor-Owned Utilities (IOU) within Oregon are discussed and explained how these companies have regional monopolies throughout Oregon. The different types of Consumer-Owned Utilities (COU) will be discussed, including Municipal Electric Companies (MEC), People's Utility District (PUD) and Cooperatives Electric Utilities (CEU). Next, we will elaborate on Federal Power Marketing Administration with the case study of how Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) provides energy to Oregon residents. Lastly, we will discuss Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). Along with why Oregon is a good case study to implement this.~~

~~Investor-Owned Utility:~~

~~An IOU is a business organization that provides a utility as a service. This business organization runs as a private company rather than part of a government. Within Oregon, there are three electric IOUs: Pacific Power, Idaho Power Company and Portland General Electric (PGE). For natural gas, there are also three within Oregon: Avista, Cascade Natural Gas and Northwest Natural. These companies have regional monopolies which split up their service area throughout Oregon. In the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) report in 2017, it states that 63.8% of Oregon electric sales came from IOUs. As a result, these six companies control most of the energy market within Oregon.~~

~~IOUs are owned by the stockholders. These stockholders could be customers of the utility or non-customers who are looking to make an investment. Publicly owned companies, including IOUs, have a goal of increasing stock prices. This could lead to decisions that are better for the owners than the customers. For example, instead of reinvesting profits into infrastructure upgrades or renewable energy, which creates a positive feedback loop, for-profit companies spend most of their profits on stock buybacks and dividends to inflate stock prices.~~

Currently, the Rogue Valley is in the geographic territories of Pacific Power and Avista. In the three-year average from 2014-2016, Pacific Power's electricity mix was the following: 59.22% coal, 15.12% natural gas, 10.56% market purchased, 7.97% wind, 5.41% hydro, and 1.72% from other.

Consumer-Owned Utility:

A COU is a utility that is owned by its members. These COUs are nonprofits that are located locally or close to the consumer. COUs operate within the regional monopolies of IOUs. COUs have the freedom to choose who supplies their services, such as electricity, water gas and sewage. COUs started due to private companies not electrifying rural America. This, in turn, was the foundation for Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 7037, which created the Rural Electrification Administration in 1935 as part of the New Deal. Then, in 1936, the Rural Electrification Act was passed by Congress. These government acts provided federal loans to install electrical distribution centers in rural America.

Since the creation of COUs there have been three different types which are used in Oregon today. In the proceeding we will start with MEC, then explain a PUD, and lastly, we will go over a CEU.

A Municipal Electric Companies (MEC) is a utility that is operated and owned by a city. In most cases, municipal utility rates are set at the city level. These rates are set by a local utility board or a municipal administration. MECs support the interest of its members and customers. In Oregon, there are twelve MECs operating as of 2019. The one closest to Talent is the City of Ashland Electric Department.

A People's Utility District (PUD) is a body of a local government that provides utility services within a specified area. A PUD is overseen by a locally elected board. As of 2019, in Oregon, there are six active PUDs. Some examples of PUDs in communities of similar size to Talent are Columbia River PUD or Tillamook PUD.

A Cooperative Electric Utility (CEU) is a type of cooperative that is tasked with delivery of a public utility. This is also overseen by a locally elected board. Also, a CEU can be established in any of the IOU or COU regions. Furthermore, there can be a very small number of customers within a CEU. In Oregon, there are eighteen different CEUs operating today. Some examples of CEUs in communities of similar sized to Talent are Columbia Power Co-op and Wasco Electric.

Federal Power Marketing Administration:

The Federal Power Marketing Administration in Oregon is Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). BPA is a nonprofit based in the Pacific Northwest which was created by Congress in 1937. This nonprofit generates electricity from 31 federal hydroelectric projects (81.85%), one nuclear plant (10.24%) and several small power plants. Although, BPA is part of the US Department of Energy, it is still considered to be a public company. BPA also works with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to reduce its environmental impact on their large-scale hydroelectric dam projects.

BPA produces power to sell to COUs or IOUs. This can be done by contract or a market purchase (when a utility needs more supply to meet demand). An example of a contract could be a ten-year deal to acquire power for a certain price. An example of a market purchase could be

when a utility experiences higher demand during a certain time, which leads them to buy power from another company to meet demand.

Community Choice Aggregation:

A CCA allows a geographic region (i.e. the Rogue Valley) or a government municipality to increase their market power by combining their electricity load to acquire a new energy contract or provider. It allows the special district to pick where their energy is sourced from and pay the utility provider in their region to transport the energy. This option breaks the geographic monopolies utility companies operate on today, allowing for competition between energy utilities and better prices for consumers.

As of January 2019, eight states have passed legislation to make this process legal: California, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island and Virginia. Another three states are considering this option: Oregon, Nevada and Arizona. Advocacy groups are proposing legislation to make CCA legal in Oregon for multiple reasons. First, it has a partially deregulated energy market. Second, Oregon has an aggressive Renewable Portfolio Standard which states that Oregon needs to increase their share of renewable energy to 50% by 2040, excluding large-scale hydropower (Oregon Senate Bill 1547). Third, in 2017, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 978 which requires the OPUC to establish a process that allows for public investigation of electrical industry trends and policy drivers. Lastly, interest in CCA in Oregon can be for multiple reasons: lower energy prices, freedom to pick who sources their power, or to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

In Oregon's 2019 legislative session, there will be a bill introduced which would legalize CCAs within the state.