

April 6, 2021

Chair Marsh, Vice Chair Brock Smith, Vice Chair Helm, and members of the committee,

Yesterday I was scheduled to provide a brief presentation to this committee on HB 3180 as an consultant working with NewSun Energy. I have submitted that written testimony separately. Today I submit this testimony as a private citizen, a voter, an Oregon taxpayer, and a Pacific Power ratepayer.

I was truly and thoroughly stunned during yesterday's hearing at the lack of transparency and good faith public process regarding this bill. It has shaken my faith in Oregon's supposedly open approach to making laws, and it has hit me even harder as a member of the Democratic party that claims to support action to mitigate climate change, and that in theory holds big business interests in check.

After being notified late on Sunday that we would be given a block of time, probably 30 minutes, to present and have public testimony on the bill, the time allowed by the chair for the alternate bill began to infringe on our small window (the other bill has had multiple hours in hearings). Out of three scheduled presenters, only one was allowed to speak before the chair cut off my testimony and more importantly, that of a respected economic analysis firm prepared to present results of their study of the economic impacts of HB 3180. Instead, she chose to recognize testimony in opposition for most of the remaining time, and would not commit to providing another opportunity for us and other supporters to be heard.

Yesterday, I was furious at this blatant act of shutting out information that the public has the right to hear, and that those at the other "table" have an obligation to hear. And I spent a lot of time pondering who really has power in Oregon.

Today I am simply discouraged and saddened.

Brittany Andrus