

Statement of Jon Silvermoon in opposition to HB 4090 2/13/2024

I am opposed to HB 4090. In our federal structure states have the right to enact measures more stringent or protective than federal requirements. Oregonians did just that in 1980 with the passage of a ballot measure prohibiting constructing nuclear power plants until the Oregon energy facility Siting Council found that there was a licensed federal repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive wastes from commercial nuclear power plants. That measure also specified that if there was a repository, the proposed nuclear power plant was subject to statewide voter approval. Failure of the nuclear industry and federal government to bring about a licensed repository is no reason to provide an exemption now, nearly forty-four years after passage of the measure. Let's not go backwards. And let's protect the right of Oregonians to have the final say on nuclear power plants in our state.