

Submitter: Spencer Laird

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2410

Dear Members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment:

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 2410, which would allow the Energy Facility Siting Council to issue a site certificate for a small modular reactor energy facility demonstration project in Umatilla County.

As a software engineer who works directly with data infrastructure, I have growing concerns about our electrical grid's ability to keep pace with rapidly increasing energy demands. Modern computing applications, particularly artificial intelligence and machine learning systems, require substantial power. Additionally, as we transition to more electric vehicles and appliances, our residential needs are also climbing.

The proposed demonstration project for small modular reactors represents a critical opportunity to explore clean, reliable energy generation that can provide baseload power to support intermittent renewable sources. It would enhance grid reliability through microgrid capabilities while supporting community energy resilience during disruptions. Most importantly, it could meet growing data center demands without increasing carbon emissions.

I urge you to support House Bill 2410.

Respectfully,

Spencer Laird