

Submitter: Peter Bergel
On Behalf Of: Oregon PeaceWorks
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2038

Testimony of Peter Bergel on HB 2038

Chair Lively and Members of the Committee:

My name is Peter Bergel. I live in Salem, and I am a constituent of Rep. Andersen's. In 1980 I was co-author and Campaign Director of Ballot Measure 7.

I am distressed that this committee is even considering a bill that calls for an investigation of nuclear power in a way that is so obviously biased. The first thing it wants ODOE to study are nuclear power's advantages. Way down the list we find "Safety of nuclear energy and nuclear waste disposal." Even further down we find reliability.

Others will discuss whether such a study represents good policy, but my questions are:

- How about studying nuclear accidents?
- How about looking into the underperformance of the Small Modular Nuclear Reactors in Russia and China, the only operating ones in existence?
- How about the NuScale/UAMPS collapse?
- How about nuclear power's extravagant use of water?
- How about nuclear power's release of radiation at every step of its cycle?
- How about nuclear power's effect on populations near uranium mines?
- How about checking into the many lies this industry has told us for 70 years?
- How about the long history of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) willingness to give the nuclear industry every possible benefit of the doubt?
- How about the recent emasculation of the NRC by the Trump administration, depriving us of even the protection that NRC did provide?

I could list quite a few more such questions, but I think you get the idea. If you are going to commit scarce taxpayer dollars to a study such as the one this bill proposes, please amend the bill to include study of at least these DISadvantages.

Much better to just vote no on HB 2038.