

Submitter: Sommer Yesenofski
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2038

I am writing as a resident of Milwaukie, OR, 97222 to oppose HB 2038. Nuclear is not a climate solution--its a dangerous, expensive, and 'dirty' energy source that won't usher us into a just and safe clean energy future.

I grew up in San Clemente, CA not far from the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant. In elementary school, in fourth grade, I remember feeling terrified, having nightmares that the nuclear plant would have an accident one day and harm my family and home. I remember being so scared having to practice evacuations for nuclear emergency drills, the sirens in my hometown going off so loudly for hours at a time. I remember my parents showing us the envelope of iodine pills in the cupboard so that my brother and I would know where to get them if there was a nuclear emergency while we were home.

These are terrifying things for a child to experience and worry about. Each reactor carries the potential for catastrophic accidents, a risk amplified by extreme weather and human error.

Oregon's kids and families should not have to experience that kind of anxiety--especially when we already have enough climate emergencies to worry about.

Nuclear is not a climate solution. Promises of new nuclear reactors are largely hype, as they won't come online for another 10 to 15 years, all while tech companies continue to burn fossil fuels powering their data centers and AI and diverting crucial resources from the renewable solutions we need now. Nuclear projects are also notorious for massive cost overruns and delays, with taxpayers and ratepayers ultimately footing the bill.

Please oppose HB 2038 and focus our energy and resources into real climate solutions. Thank you.