

Submitter: John Raymonda
On Behalf Of: People of Oregon
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2038

I am writing to express my opposition to HB 2038, which would require ODOE to carry out studies of several aspects of generation of electricity by nuclear power. In 1980 a ballot measure was passed prohibiting the use of nuclear power to generate electricity in Oregon. As a retired PhD Physical Chemist with extensive training in physics as well as chemistry, it is my opinion that little if any progress has been made since 1980 toward making nuclear energy safer or more climate-friendly. Nuclear power is not climate-friendly because it always produces waste heat which ends up rivers, the ocean or the atmosphere. Renewables such as solar and wind power do not produce any significant waste heat.

In considering my personal testimony regarding these matters, I perused several of the written testimonies already submitted and found that the testimony of Alan R.P. Journet, Ph.D. of SOCAN says everything I could wish to say, only better. I only want to emphasize here that the problem of safe and permanent disposal of the nuclear waste has not yet been solved. Our country is still burdened by all the waste from the Hanford reactor, to name just one major waste site. Such waste will be hazardous to the health of any persons forced to come near it for thousands of years. What a horrible legacy to leave future generations! Until the waste disposal problem is solved, there is no point in even considering any additional use of nuclear power over what we are currently stuck with.

I urge you vote against HB 2038.