



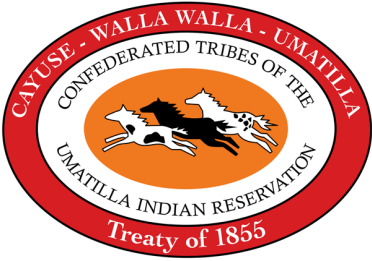
**Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian  
Reservation  
Written Testimony RE: House Bill 2410  
Establishing the Umatilla County Small  
Modular (Nuclear) Reactor Demonstration  
Project**

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) have significant concerns regarding House Bill 2410 (HB2410). If passed, HB2410 would allow siting of small modular nuclear reactors in Umatilla County, within lands ceded by CTUIR in the Treaty of 1855 and not far from the Reservation's present-day boundaries. CTUIR is already recognized as an "affected Tribe" under the federal Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. At Hanford Nuclear Reservation, we have witnessed damage that can be done through rushed nuclear development. Hanford was sited in our territory without concern for our Treaty-reserved rights and, as an "affected Tribe," CTUIR has been involved in the clean-up at Hanford for decades.

Hanford is a good example of the consequences of rushed development of nuclear energy. When Hanford was built, the United States government reasoned that limited concern for environmental safety was justifiable: it was built with the end goal of bringing World War II to a close and securing the safety of the United States in a nuclear era. Here, we wish to underscore that HB2410 has a much different goal—global consumerism presented as economic development. However, beyond the potential benefits, HB2410 will have local consequences that outweigh the latter end goal. As written, it does not provide a long-term solution regarding any nuclear waste generated and shifts any burden for temporary storage of spent nuclear fuel or radioactive by-products generated by the demonstration project to an unknown Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensee. CTUIR knows from previous experience that nuclear waste is a burden that will be with us for millennia, and— unless and until a specific repository is selected elsewhere—that it is likely that any newly generated waste will stay in Umatilla County, and within CTUIR's ceded lands, indefinitely. As discussed at the hearing, all the waste generated by the Trojan Nuclear Power Plant remains there, and none of the fuel has been transported or reprocessed off site over 30 years after it was shut down.

In 1980, Oregon passed Measure 7, a referendum banning commercial nuclear power plants unless a federally licensed nuclear waste storage facility was approved. The 1980 referendum is no less relevant today because, 45 years later, we still have no long-term federally licensed nuclear waste storage facility. As with Measure 7, proposals such as HB2410 should be subject to far more public input than has occurred to date, due to the multiple risks posed, and prior to a vote before the Oregon State Legislature. In 1980, Measure 7 was a state-wide vote, and we offer that any measure proposed to reverse it should also be by a state-wide vote.

Last, as a demonstration project, HB2410 poses an enormous risk to our homelands and Treaty reserved rights and resources because of the potential for dozens or hundreds of facilities across Eastern Oregon. Any demonstration projects regarding small modular nuclear reactors need to be thoroughly evaluated and staged for feasibility before development is proposed. The CTUIR *might* support small modular nuclear reactor studies at the *feasibility* stage – "*can* it be done," not "*it will* be done," so long as those studies include Tribal consultation and allow for robust



**Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian  
Reservation  
Written Testimony RE: House Bill 2410  
*Establishing the Umatilla County Small  
Modular (Nuclear) Reactor Demonstration  
Project***

input from Tribal governments, so we can identify potential impacts to our homelands, resources and rights, and so long as the studies require explicit consideration for long-term disposal of wastes generated. Absent these conditions, such studies and projects should not be advanced.