

Submitter: Shauna McKain-Storey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2410

My husband is an electrical engineer who has studied nuclear and other energy issues and finds the excitement over small nuclear reactors unrealistic. These reactors still produce radioactive waste - which could be pose significant risks if it is handled improperly - and require costly infrastructure. They also lack proven safety records, and allowing such a reactor in a single county makes no sense. SMNRs are marketed as a cleaner nuclear option, but Oregon has prioritized renewable energy solutions like wind and solar, which are safer, more affordable, and quicker to deploy. For all of these reasons, I strongly object to this bill which allows the Energy Facility Siting Council to issue a site certificate for a small modular nuclear reactor (SMNR) demonstration project in Umatilla County. And, I believe that approving this project could pave the way for expanded nuclear development by circumventing the democratic process that brought forward the measure that currently prevents it.