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On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2038

HB 2038 would require the Oregon Department of Energy to study the viability of nuclear energy as an energy source in Oregon. But to me it seems written in a way that could significantly skew the study towards the benefits of nuclear energy. All of the listed items for study are posed as positives. Section 6 (a) even says "the advantages of nuclear energy." Shouldn't the disadvantages of nuclear energy also be listed? There are many serious disadvantages of nuclear energy development, including high construction costs, projects that historically often take many years to produce a useful supply of energy, and dangerous waste byproducts which are also expensive to handle and store safely. What are the implications of these costs for ratepayers like me? I might favor an unbiased bill that would study all possible advantages and disadvantages of nuclear energy development.