



Community Renewable Energy Association
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February 28, 2025

Subject: *CREA Testimony in support of HB-2410*

To: *House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment*

Honorable Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Bobby Levy, and members of the committee.

On behalf of CREA, an intergovernmental entity representing local governments and developers of renewable energy facilities in Oregon since 2007, I am writing in **support** of **HB-2410**, relating to a small modular reactor energy facility demonstration project in Umatilla County.

Although the subject matter of nuclear energy is new at CREA, our members and communities around Oregon have been wanting to gain a better understand of the current technology, and it's potential for helping the state meet its goals for domestic clean energy generation. HB-2410 also supports micro-grid concepts, which has been a priority for CREA for many years in the support of grid resilience.

We very much appreciated the testimony from the Breakthrough Institute, and especially the Oregon Department of Energy's presentation by Assistant Director Max Woods during the informational hearing on February 27th, and we look forward to staying engaged on this topic as we continue to support new opportunities for Oregon grown energy.

We feel that this is a critical step toward the modernization and diversification of Oregon's energy portfolio, by enabling the deployment of advanced nuclear technologies. This creates a framework, exempting Umatilla County from the statewide moratorium on nuclear energy, deferring to the people of Umatilla County for their approval or rejection, allowing for beneficial energy solutions that could significantly contribute to the decarbonization efforts in the state of Oregon and our region.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter, and we hope the committee will support this concept moving forward.

Regards,
James Williams
CREA Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Williams", is positioned below the typed name and title.

CREA is an ORS 190 intergovernmental association. Members include counties, irrigation districts, project developers, for-profit businesses and non-profit organizations. CREA supports business and economic opportunities through renewable energy development in a competitive environment. We support use of free enterprise principles to create economically and environmentally responsible electric generation within the State of Oregon.