



Dear Chair Sollman, Vice-Chair Brock Smith, and Members of the Committee,

As an organization which advocates for a just transition to clean energy, climate justice, and public health, Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter opposes SB 635. We consider new nuclear development as an expensive and risky distraction from more affordable, more timely, and less dangerous solutions such as solar and wind combined with storage and potentially enhanced geothermal generation, which was selected in the Oregon Energy Strategy modeling runs.

The environmental and public safety impacts and risks associated with nuclear material mining, refining, transportation, and waste disposal are significant. The disadvantages of nuclear also include repeated cost overruns and delayed operation for both large reactors and modern SMR reactors. Meanwhile, the cost of solar, wind, and storage has come down many times over in the last decade. According to the [Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, May 29, 2024](#): SMR technology is “still too expensive, too slow to build, and too risky to play a significant role in transitioning from fossil fuels” and will take resources away from lower-cost technologies available today.

Oregon can do better than nuclear reactors. Please vote NO on SB 635.

Thank you,

Amanda Duncan
Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee
Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

About the Climate Reality Project Portland Chapter

The Climate Reality Project (CRP) Portland Chapter is a local, volunteer-led chapter of The Climate Reality Project, an international nonprofit of 5 million members led by climate leader and former US Vice President Al Gore, whose mission is to catalyze global solutions to the climate crisis. Our legislative committee bases its advocacy on CRP's 5 pillars: a just transition to clean energy, zero carbon transportation, climate justice and public health, green communities, and a fair, representative democracy. climaterealitypdx.com/, www.climaterealityproject.org