

March 6, 2025

Committee: Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

**Opposition to SB 635**

*These comments are being submitted on behalf of Karyn Jones, Susan Jones, Stephanie Jensen and Joanne Oman Richardson.*

As residents of Umatilla County, we strongly oppose SB 635.

OSU has established commercial and financial ties to the nuclear industry involved with this effort. This could result in a biased study to recommend nuclear power without addressing the significant potential environment and safety risks.

There is also no valid reason for the bill to declare a state of emergency to go into effect immediately on passage and Governor's signature.

This bill is written solely to promote and develop nuclear energy within the State of Oregon. It is not designed to study the well-documented flaws of nuclear energy. To date, there is no Federally licensed facility within the United States to store nuclear waste. We have only to look at the well-documented Hanford experience with their on-going lack of effective nuclear waste storage and disposal to know there is no long-term storage solution at this time. Oregon could be burdened with storing nuclear waste produced within the state for centuries.

This bill is an unnecessary and time-consuming expense. The cost of studying and implementing nuclear power within the state far exceeds the economic benefit.

We are incorporating by reference testimony in opposition to SB 635 submitted by Alan Journet on behalf of Southern Oregon Climate Action Now; Daniel Meek on behalf of Oregon Progressive Party; Lloyd Marbet on behalf of Oregon Conservancy Foundation and the Progressive Party; Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility; Sierra Club; and Columbia River Keepers.

We reiterate our opposition to SB 635.

Sincerely,  
Karyn Jones