

March 7, 2025

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
State of Oregon

ATTN: Senator Janeen Sollman
Senator David Brock Smith
Senator Jeff Golden
Senator Khanh Pham
Senator Noah Robinson

Dear Committee,

As a longtime resident of Oregon, I would like to express my opposition to SB 215, which “repeals the requirement that there be a licensed repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste before a site certificate for a nuclear-field thermal power plant may be issued.”

The basis for my opposition is that I believe it makes no sense to allow for a site certificate to be issued before a full plan is developed. Having no licensed repositories for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste seems to me to be a major missing part of any nuclear power plant plan. No project of the scope and nature of this kind should proceed without a complete plan.

In SB 215, Section 5, Sub-section (27) there is a definition of what a site certificate is:

“Site certificate” means the binding agreement between the State of Oregon and the applicant, authorizing the applicant to construct and operate a facility on an approved site, incorporating all conditions imposed by the council on the applicant.

The authorization for an applicant to construct and operate a nuclear power plant of any size without a radioactive waste disposal plan is unsafe, unwise and in my opinion unacceptable. I would strongly oppose the issuance of a site certificate without a complete high-level radioactive waste disposal plan.

For those reasons, I oppose SB 215.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jeff Hart

Salem, Oregon