

Submitter: Joyce Follingstad

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB215

I oppose the passage of SB215. This bill would refer a measure to the voters of Oregon to allow small modular reactors (SMRs) to be built and operated in Oregon which would bring nuclear power back into Oregon, even though Oregon voters rejected further nuclear power for Oregon in 1980. That bill of 1980 also stated that no further nuclear power could be brought into Oregon unless the voters vote it in and unless there is a federally licensed repository for the nuclear waste, which still has not happened. The people were wise to reject Nuclear power, as it is extremely expensive compared to solar and wind power, it will be at least a decade to even produce a prototype, when we have solar and wind readily available and leaving highly toxic and radioactive wastes for future generations to manage is immoral when we have healthier alternatives. Given our current administration who have vowed to slash government spending including the Department of Defense and nuclear facilities, it is unsafe and foolhardy to put taxpayer money into the nuclear industry, as it is the ratepayer citizen who ultimately pays for the decommission of nuclear plants, the insurance of these plants and the eventual storage of the wastes. Please leave the wisdom of the voters of Oregon of 1980 alone and reject SB215.

Dr. Joyce Follingstad