

Submitter: Joyce Follingstad

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB216

I strongly oppose SB216 which would disrespect the will of Oregon voters who, in 1980, voted to restrict future nuclear power plants in Oregon, unless there is a federally licensed repository for nuclear wastes, which has been promised for almost 50 years and has still not been sited or licensed, and unless there is a statewide vote. If small modular nuclear reactors were built in Oregon, they would produce high level radioactive wastes and once again, we would have no permanent repository, leaving it to future generations to manage these toxic, dangerous and lethal materials for hundreds of thousands of years. In addition, should there ever be a licensed permanent repository, the citizens of our country would need protection for hundreds of thousands of years from that facility. Our current administration has begun slashing our governmental workforce and programs, including the Department of Defense and nuclear facilities. Given that the citizens of our country, through our taxes, have to insure and decommission plants and store the wastes, and given that we citizens cannot insure our property or our bodies from nuclear accidents, and given that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is not only working as a regulatory agency but is also tasked with promoting nuclear energy, our citizens have no protection from this very costly and dangerous form of energy production. SMRs will take another decade to produce, while solar and wind energy are renewable, are much less expensive and are readily available to produce clean energy without toxic waste as a result.

Please vote NO to SB216. Please respect the will and the wisdom of the citizens of Oregon. SB216 makes no pretense to respect the will of Oregon voters.

Dr. Joyce Follingstad