

Dear Committee on Energy and Environment:

I am writing in opposition to SB 634. I believe that Oregon should be doing everything we can to expand our supply of renewable energy as rapidly as possible, and this bill would actually militate against that goal. By allowing existing hydroelectric sources to count toward the aim of decarbonizing our electricity supply, we'll delay implementation of other, truly low-carbon sources. Because hydropower is not strictly greenhouse gas (GHG) neutral, due to methane generating algae upstream of dams, It behooves us to augment the electrical supply with sources that do not generate GHGs. For those reasons, I believe this bill is a step backward and therefore oppose it.

Thank you for your consideration,

Gary Reiness