

Submitter: Terry Hamilton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3422

Dear House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment.

I am here today to support HB 3422 for consideration for all appropriate alternative's sites including but not limited to Solar Projects being put on EFU Lands.

HB 3422 will help protect high class soil in Oregon and insure that appropriate low-class soil and land be utilized first before any high-class soil land is used.

The money to be used comes from in part by Oregon tax payers for these projects.

Wind and solar sites in the Willamette valley is not suited for reliable weather. Many other parts of Oregon provide's a better reliability in weather patterns for the proposed projects. Historic weather records show that many, many other Oregon sites will provide for a more optimum weather and return on this type of investments. High class EFU lands in optimum weather areas should be required to look for other alternative sites to use low class EFU lands first.

Allowing high class EFU lands in low class weather areas is not investing our money wisely.

The land use standards used by Oregon county's require alternative sites be explored before a project is granted. The energy facility siting council is not currently required to explore alternative sites but should use the same standards. By not using the same standards becomes hypocritical for all of Oregon to use one standard and not required for the siting council.

All other planning departments in Oregon require alternative sites to be explored. It will ensure the money spent will return the highest returns on investments and hopefully with the lowest class lands.

The Oregon Energy facility siting committee has yet to deny any solar projects. so far its 9 approved and none denied. Clearly Oregon needs more stringent requirements to where solar is placed.

We don't want to have a project deconditioned like the solar site in the Mojave desert after just 11 years because the project was not placed in the proper environment and inferior products not suited for the environment was used.

Oregon has already lost to much EFU lands.

Please don't throw our high class EFU lands away.

Please support HB 3422 to help insure our high-class soil and lands will be protected.