



Mothers for Nuclear
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Oregon Legislature
House Committee on Energy and Environment
hee.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing in support of SB 990 and the exemption of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) from the nuclear moratorium in Oregon. Oregon has the opportunity to be a leader on clean energy, and the development of advanced nuclear technology is an important step to ensure a resilient and reliable clean energy future.

We are mothers and environmentalists who used to be skeptical of nuclear, but now believe that it's vital in protecting our children from pollution, our landscapes from sprawl, and future generations from global warming. Clean, reliable energy is a moral imperative for our world since it allows economic development while protecting human health and our natural environment. Nuclear energy addresses our greatest environmental and human health challenges by generating a constant and reliable supply of electricity on a very small footprint of land with virtually no emissions.

Development and support of a variety of clean energy technologies is vital to reducing our world's heavy reliance on fossil fuels. When considering the abilities and limitations inherent in each technology, and the environmental pros and cons of each, it is clear that there is a trade-off in every energy scenario. We need to understand those tradeoffs and make wise choices that reward the values we share. With nuclear as part of a clean energy mix, we can provide abundant energy to our growing world and minimize impacts to people and nature.

Existing nuclear and advanced technologies are threatened in the United States and around the world due to anti-nuclear policies. Many anti-nuclear campaigns prey on the public's lack of information about nuclear power coupled with fear of radiation and nuclear weapons. When we did the research for ourselves, we ended up discovering nuclear energy to be one of the best kept secrets in land conservation and climate action. Fortunately, many states are starting to recognize the value of nuclear and are taking steps to include nuclear in their energy policies.

Our nation is at an energy and environmental crossroads. As air pollution and climate change threaten our families and our future, the expansion of new nuclear and other clean technologies across the world is vital. SB 990 helps Oregon pave the way for its communities and families to improve access to clean, reliable power. This bill is a symbolic step towards allowing all clean energy technologies to contribute to our energy mix. Small modular reactors, in combination with other clean energy sources, will allow Oregon to make real progress towards an emission-free energy future.

Sincerely,

Heather Matteson and Kristin Zaitz
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