
From: John Swaner <johnswaner@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 8:58 AM
To: rep.kenhelm@state.or.us; Rep.MarkJohnson@state.or.us; Rep Power; Rep.PhilBarnhart@state.or.us; RepBentz; Rep Holvey; Rep Marsh; Rep Reschke; Rep Smith D
Cc: Reiley Beth; Hernandez Maria
Subject: Testimony on SB990 for May 25, 2017 Hearing

TO: Members of House Energy and Environment Committee
Re. SB990 and E and E Committee Hearing, May 25, 2017

Please make this email part of the record for the hearing on SB990.

I am writing to oppose passage of SB990 as it severely weakens *O. R. S. § 469.595* concerning storage of nuclear waste, and sneakily bypasses the requirement to have voter approval for the construction of nuclear power plants in Oregon.

It is extremely unwise for the legislature change the decision to have a moratorium on nuclear power plant construction until the long-term nuclear waste storage/disposal issue has been resolved. All nuclear power plants, no matter their size, produce toxic, radioactive waste that must be safely stored for hundreds or thousands of years, depending on the rate of decay of the radioactivity from the spent fuel rods and other nuclear waste produced by these plants.

It is not a reasonable solution to create small radioactive waste storage ponds which would disperse radioactive waste to a number of locations throughout our State, endangering many communities.

The recent Hanford incident, where a tunnel storing waste from nuclear weapons manufacture collapsed, is one more example of the time bomb of the unending danger in the storage of toxic, radioactive waste.

By calling nuclear power "carbon-free" the nuclear power industry is green-washing the very long-term danger of nuclear waste, which will be around for generations. The only viable "carbon-free" electricity generation is solar and wind power. This completely safe, true clean power is rapidly becoming more available and less expensive. It is also a far superior source of new, hi-tech jobs. Now is no time to be fooled by the nuclear power industry's claims that it provides cheap power which does not harm the environment. There are good economic and environmental reasons why most of the large corporations which used to supply nuclear power have withdrawn from this business.

The legislature must oppose any bill which would encourage or assist the production of toxic nuclear waste of any kind. You know the informed citizens of Oregon do not support such an unwise bill.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Swaner

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