



May 23, 2017

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

Dear Members of the Committee,

We are a coalition of environmentalists, students, organizers, journalists, and nuclear engineers writing in support of Oregon Senate Bill 990. This bill would exempt small modular reactors (SMRs) from certain siting restrictions that apply to nuclear-fueled thermal power plants. SMRs would be a potent tool in transitioning our electricity grid away from fossil fuels to a system with carbon-free baseload. We cannot think of a more fitting place to deploy small modular reactors than right in the home state of the company that is pioneering the technology in the United States, NuScale Power.

The 37 year old nuclear moratorium in Oregon was written with the intent of protecting people and the environment. Passing this legislation keeps within the spirit and intent of the referendum by permitting a technology that produces no emissions, poses no public health risk, and has a smaller environmental footprint than any similarly sized energy resource. As Oregon pushes toward a clean energy future, they'll be looking for ways to replace existing fossil generation with reliable and resilient carbon free electricity. What better way than a homegrown source of energy with essentially no environmental impacts?

We, as Generation Atomic, support the passage of SB 990 so that advanced nuclear technology like NuScale Power's SMR can be deployed. We need all possible tools to decarbonize our energy systems in time to prevent the worst effects of climate change and ocean acidification, and we hope the members of the committee and Oregon Legislative Assembly agree.

With hope for the future,

Eric G. Meyer
Executive Director
Generation Atomic

About the Organization:

Generation Atomic is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that strives to energize and empower today's generations to advocate for a future powered by nuclear energy. The Board of Directors is composed of students, nuclear plant workers, journalists, and members of the advanced nuclear community, including Lenka Kollar of NuScale Power.