



# Oregon Citizens' Utility Board

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May 23, 2017

To: Chair Helms and House Energy and Environment Committee Members  
From: Janice Thompson, Advocacy Director  
Re: SB 990 is premature-CUB opposes action in the House

SB 990 involves small scale nuclear reactor technology that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has not yet approved. NuScale Power expects Design Certification approval by the Commission in summer of 2020. Operation of NuScale Power's anticipated first project in Utah is expected to begin in 2026.

CUB urges no further action on SB 990 in the House since the timelines outlined above reveal that this legislation is not needed at this time. Our "SB 990 is premature" opposition is reinforced by CUB's view that extreme caution is required before taking legislative action that can be reasonably construed as undermining the 1980 ballot measure requiring voter approval and the existence of a permanent disposal facility for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste before construction of a nuclear power facility in Oregon.

Discussion of a possible future version of this legislation in three to nine years will also benefit from lessons learned from implementation of SB 1547, the Clean Electricity and Coal Transition Act; compliance with Resource Portfolio Standards; and future rounds of Integrated Resource Planning by our state's investor-owned utilities.

At this time, however, SB 990 is premature and CUB urges no action on this legislation by the House Energy and Environment Committee.