

House Bill 2692

Sponsored by Representative WITT (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Exempts issuance of site certificate for small modular reactors from requirement that proposal by Energy Facility Siting Council to issue site certificate for nuclear-fueled thermal power plant must be approved by voters.

Requires State Department of Energy to develop and administer program for educating public about small modular reactors.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to energy; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 469.590 and 469.597.

2 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

3 **SECTION 1.** ORS 469.590 is amended to read:

4 469.590. As used in ORS 469.590 to [469.595] **469.619:**

5 (1) "High-level radioactive waste" means spent nuclear fuel or the radioactive by-products from
6 the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel.

7 (2) "**Small modular reactor**" means a nuclear fission reactor that has an electric output
8 that does not exceed 300 megawatts per module.

9 [(2)] (3) "Spent nuclear fuel" means nuclear fuel rods or assemblies which have been irradiated
10 in a power reactor and subsequently removed from that reactor.

11 **SECTION 2.** ORS 469.597 is amended to read:

12 469.597. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 469.370, if the Energy Facility Siting Council
13 finds that the requirements of ORS 469.595 have been satisfied and proposes to issue a site certifi-
14 cate for a nuclear-fueled thermal power plant, the proposal shall be submitted to the electors of this
15 state for their approval or rejection at the next available statewide general election. The procedures
16 for submitting a proposal to the electors under this section shall conform, as nearly as possible to
17 those for state measures, including but not limited to procedures for printing related material in the
18 voters' pamphlet.

19 (2) A site certificate for a nuclear-fueled thermal power plant shall not be issued until the
20 electors of this state have approved the issuance of the certificate at an election held pursuant to
21 subsection (1) of this section.

22 (3) **Subsections (1) and (2) of this section do not apply to a proposal by the council to is-
23 sue a site certificate for a single or multi-module small modular reactor plant.**

24 **SECTION 3.** Section 4 of this 2021 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 469.590 to
25 **469.619.**

26 **SECTION 4.** (1) **The State Department of Energy shall develop and administer a program
27 for providing information and education to the public about small modular reactors.**

28 (2) **The program required by this section shall provide education and information on:**

29 (a) **The operational safety of small modular reactors;**
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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **(b) The safety of storing high-level radioactive waste from small modular reactors in a**
2 **terminal repository licensed to operate by the appropriate agency of the federal government;**
3 **and**

4 **(c) The potential for the use in Oregon of energy generated by small modular reactors**
5 **to further Oregon’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals.**

6 **SECTION 5.** **In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
7 **ated to the State Department of Energy, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the**
8 **General Fund, the amount of \$_____, which may be expended for developing and adminis-**
9 **tering the program required by section 4 of this 2021 Act.**

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