

Submitter: Bonnie McKinlay

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB2215

Chair Marsh, Vice Chairs Levy and Levy and Committee Members thank you for the opportunity to state my opposition to HB 2215.

To begin, I want to point to another bill. Almost everyone who sits on this committee helped pass SB 1567 last year. I commend the Oregon Legislature for addressing the safety issues of the Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub. Not all Oregonians are aware that the CEI Hub is a 6-mile stretch of tank farms storing toxic materials and over 90% of Oregon's fossil fuels on the unstable, seismic sensitive banks of the Willamette in Oregon's most populous city. Once a vibrant ecosystem bounded by hillside forests and a healthy riverfront, the CEI Hub was able to expand for decades without the realization of the underlying threat of the Cascadia subduction zone. Now the risks are known. Now we see the mistake in placing a mix of noxious materials in an area subject to liquefaction on a vital river, close to a bigger river, in a big city. With SB 1567, the Oregon Legislature has taken a preliminary step to remedy a predicted catastrophe—that is responsible leadership.

Today HB 2215 is before this committee. Instead of backtracking on the voter-approved nuclear safety measure that HB 2215 would eliminate, we can avoid making a CEI Hub level mistake. As other opponents of HB 2215 have explained, a reemergence of nuclear energy in Oregon is fraught with serious problems. There are the cost overruns, yearslong delays, unsolved radioactive waste disposal, impacts on Tribal communities, scant long term employment opportunities, on and on. Committee members and Chair Marsh, do not threaten our Oregon with another massive mistake.

I represent the Stop Nuclear WorkGroup. We prepared the document, "Nuclear Power Is Not A Climate Solution". Seventeen groups endorse the statement: 350 Deschutes, 350 Eugene, 350PDX, 350 Seattle, Alliance For Democracy, Braided River Campaign, Columbia Riverkeeper, Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Northwest Environmental Advocates, Oregon Chapter of the Sierra Club, Oregon Conservancy Foundation, Oregon PeaceWorks, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Oregon Progressive Party, Portland Youth Climate Council, Rogue Climate and Southern Oregon Climate Action Network

Please do not allow HB 2215 to move beyond this committee. Thank you.

