

Submitter: Mark Morgan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2038

As the father of three young 5th-Generation rural Oregonians who love swimming in the Columbia River just minutes from our home in Hermiston, I enthusiastically support HB2038.

Our home sits just 25 miles from the massive Columbia Generating Station nuclear reactor, which is also only about 20 river-miles from where our kids swim. I therefore find it hard to discern any marginal increase in downside potential from SMRs in our community; but I see major downsides from keeping them out.

Umatilla County is an ideal location for nuclear energy in Oregon. We are within reasonable commuting distance of a major nuclear power labor pool associated with the Hanford Nuclear reservation. We have significant power transmission infrastructure & water availability associated with the Columbia River hydro-power system.

Keeping SMR's out of Umatilla County will **not** make my children any safer, but it **will** limit economic opportunity for them here & reduce the likelihood that they are able to find work here in Rural Oregon as adults.

I urge you to support HB2038 so that those of us who choose to make rural eastern Oregon home, can engage in economic self-determination and vote to create a local economy that will support good family-wage jobs in the energy sector for future generations.