

Submitter:

Louise Gordon

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4046

I oppose this bill because the bill proposes that ODOE raise private and federal money to conduct the study. That opens the door for corporations with financial stakes in nuclear development (including Big Tech companies and nuclear industry interests) to fund the very study that could shape Oregon's energy future. A study funded by industry risks becoming industry advocacy. That doesn't really make good sense.

At the federal level, nuclear safety standards are being weakened. There is a lot of corruption in the Federal government now and we can't rely on them to use good data. Recent actions include efforts to rewrite safety rules with industry involvement, ship spent fuel cross-country, and exempt certain nuclear projects from environmental review requirements. Washington lawmakers recently halted a similar nuclear "study" bill in their state in light of these risks. Oregon should do the same.