

# Support HB 4046 with the -2 Amendment

## Advancing Information on Nuclear Power for Oregon

In an era of climate change and increasing energy consumption, analyses agree that an **“all of the above” strategy** for modernizing Oregon’s energy supply will be **key to providing reliable, clean, affordable energy for Oregon** communities and businesses. We are experiencing a historic energy transition that presents significant challenges, but also provides opportunities to support high-quality jobs and build a diverse, inclusive workforce here in Oregon.

Other states, like **New York, Washington and Texas**, are meeting this moment through **deploying advanced nuclear reactors** as a **carbon-free complement to variable renewables**, but statutes from 1980 create practical barriers to siting nuclear in Oregon, stymying its consideration here.

Oregon’s energy challenges do not just require 3-5 year solutions, but serious conversations today to address what the Oregon Energy Strategy shows could be a **doubling of electricity loads by 2050**. Nuclear energy projects require long lead times. Actions today by other state and private actors make clear that without starting serious conversations now, Oregon may miss the opportunity to consider nuclear as a part of our clean energy economy.

**Now is the time to start meaningfully educating ourselves on the true potential benefits and risks of advanced nuclear energy for our state, and that is what HB 4046 aims to do.**

**HB 4046 with the -2 amendment** requires the Oregon Department of Energy to conduct a study and provide a report to policy makers and the public, to support an up-to-date understanding of advanced nuclear reactors.

Through a balanced, technical and objective analysis, the **HB 4046 study will address:**

- What “advanced nuclear reactors,” are and how they work.
- The feasibility of constructing nuclear reactors in Oregon, including considerations related to timing; costs; safety; human health and the environment; necessary government and industry support; use cases for co-location and co-generation; financing; and the long-term outlook for advanced nuclear deployment in the United States.
- The impacts of nuclear energy on economic growth and workforce development.
- Nuclear waste management.
- The existing statutory and regulatory landscape for nuclear in Oregon.

In conducting the study, the Department is directed to seek public input, and to engage with Oregon’s nine federally-recognized Indian tribes with specific consideration for on and off-reservation tribal treaty rights, first foods and cultural resources. In seeking outside resources to complete this work, the Department is directed to provide full transparency regarding funding sources.

**Over 20 other states have** taken steps to analyze the feasibility of advanced nuclear. **It is time for Oregon to do the same.** Join with us in supporting a fresh look at nuclear for Oregon:

## VOTE YES ON HB 4046

