

Submitter: diana boss

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4046

Sample Testimony Outline

Dear Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the committee:

I'm testifying today in opposition to HB 4046, which seeks to advance nuclear energy development in Oregon by funding a potentially biased study that focuses on its advantages without including a well-rounded look at its disadvantages.

The issue of nuclear waste management presents a formidable challenge. Nuclear reactors produce highly radioactive waste that can remain hazardous for hundreds of thousands of years. Current methods for storing this waste are not foolproof and pose ongoing risks to both human health and the environment. The lack of a permanent solution for nuclear waste storage must be part of the discussion if we are to consider expanding nuclear energy in our state. As a physician and a cancer survivor, I feel strongly that we must potential health effects of nuclear waste as part of decision making.

We must consider the economic implications of pursuing nuclear energy. The initial costs associated with building and maintaining nuclear power plants are tremendous. These funds could be better allocated toward renewable energy sources such as wind and solar, which are becoming increasingly cost-effective and environmentally friendly, ensuring a more sustainable and resilient energy future.

Oregon has a strong track record of taking action to advance climate justice. And we have a responsibility to continue this momentum now when federal leadership is slashing and burning essential climate investments and safety measures. I don't want communities in my state to be sacrifice zones for nuclear disaster and skyrocketing energy bills. I am calling on legislators to stay focused on real solutions to the climate crisis: energy efficiency, renewables, and storage—not wasting time and resources on a nuclear fantasy. Please vote no on advancing HB 4046.

Sincerely,
Diana Boss
Beaverton, OR 97008