

**Comments on HB 4046**, a bill directing the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to "study" nuclear power in Oregon.

**I urge you to reject HB 4046.**

I care about this issue because in my decades of public service in this state I have personally known Oregonians who lost family and community members and have suffered chronic illness as a result of toxic materials released into the air and ground by Hanford. I also personally learned, from a welder who worked on the Seabrook Station plant in New Hampshire, that there are construction defects at that plant because the companies building it did not allow the crews sufficient time to complete their work.

To be direct: unless you and your family are willing to live down wind and down stream of Hanford, it is cruel to suggest that other people bear this suffering and take this risk.

The moratorium on nuclear power in our state protects **all** Oregonians. It is critical to our long-term survival and wellbeing.

- There is no emergency need for this unsafe power source. AI is not sustainable and degrades our lives. Powering AI is unnecessary. The AI data industry disrupts our economy and will destroy our communities.
- Any and all available funds for managing our state's power needs are needed for developing alternative energy, improving the efficiency of our infrastructure and helping businesses and residents use less power.
- People who want nuclear power for personal financial gain are not qualified to "study" the issue for the government. There is no need for this. We know already, because of who proposes this, how it will be paid for, and who is barred from the process (everyone affected and anyone with critical information about safety and impact), what the final document will say. This bill would allow a group of private businesspeople to usurp the role of government, which is to research and consider issues that need review, considering all sides of an issue, in consultation with people affected, and in an open and transparent process.
- Changes at the federal level already put us at greater risk from injury and death from toxic nuclear power. **THERE IS NO WAY TO STORE NUCLEAR WASTE SAFELY.** Previously, our legislators put a pause on any discussion of nuclear power until the waste safety issue could be solved nationally. The safety problem has not been solved. The risks are increasing, not decreasing, as the federal government wants to lower safety standards on shipping spent fuels and reviewing environmental impacts.

Washington has said no to the companies that want to make more money by creating nuclear power plants. Oregon Legislators can, and should, do the same, to protect our health our lives, and our beautiful natural environment.

Sincerely,

Alice Warner, Esq.