



If you oppose bringing nuclear power to Oregon...

All Hands on Deck!

[House Bill 4046](#) has just been introduced into the Oregon Legislature. It would require the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to conduct a study of “nuclear energy, including advanced nuclear reactors.” So, what’s wrong with that?

At least four things:

1. The ODOE just completed a study of all possible energy sources in Oregon and concluded that nuclear energy is not cost effective, so we don’t need another study. They said they would revisit the matter in 4 years.
2. The bill “Directs the department to engage with tribal governments, consult with certain state agencies and organizations and **utilize moneys from federal, private and other public sources** to carry out the study.” This is an open invitation to the nuclear and data center industries to donate to the “Nuclear Energy Study Fund,” which the bill creates. Accepting funding for a study from entities that have a vested interest in the outcome of that study opens the door to corruption and is profoundly unethical.
3. This provision was added to a bill that failed last session for lack of funding. It was added to avoid a secondary referral to the Ways and Means Committee. Money in Oregon is extremely tight, thanks in part to Trump’s budget cuts, and no project like this would be likely to be funded with state dollars at this time.
4. The bill calls for consultation with several entities, including Oregon State University. OSU is known to be very pro-nuclear power, but the bill does not call for anyone with differing points of view.

Hearings

We do not yet know when the House Energy Committee will hold hearings on this bill, but the session is very short (35 days), so it will be soon, if at all. We will send you another alert when we know, but we will not have much notice. You can subscribe to the bill by going to <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2026R1/Measures/Overview/HB4046> and clicking the “eSubscribe” link in the upper right corner. That way you will receive notice of the hearing as soon as we do.

Meanwhile, please write your testimony and have it ready to go. If you are testifying in writing, you can submit it as soon as a hearing is announced by going to the “Submit Testimony” link at the top of the page linked above. If you are able to attend the hearing, either in person or remotely, so much the better.

Talking Points

- If this bill were to pass with the outside funding provision included, it would help the nuclear industry begin the process of undermining the 1980 ballot measure that has kept nuclear power out of Oregon for 46 years. It would also create a fund that could be used not only to influence this study, but for who knows what else in the future – an unethical link between the state and the affected industries.
- If this provision were removed from the bill, the bill would probably fail again due to lack of funding.
- Either way, the study is unnecessary because the ODOE just put nuclear power on the shelf for the next 4 years.
- If the bill is passed, it should be amended either to delete OSU from the consultation groups or to require that ODOE also consult an entity with an anti-nuclear point of view.

Thank you for your active opposition to nuclear power in Oregon.

The Stop Nuclear Work Group