

Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Dear Anna,

This past month we had an exciting win with the passing of Eugene's Electrification mandate! This is a huge win for our movement to replace polluting methane gas with clean, renewable electricity. As we celebrate this victory, we are continuing our work to stop **Zenith's crude oil operations, expansion of the GTN Xpress gas pipeline, the unprecedented growth of Factory Farms, and nuclear industry efforts to turn Oregon into a Nuclear Waste Dump.** As we work to stop the bad, we remain hopeful as **Oregon's Early Compassionate Release bill** is being heard and we are invited to **commemorate Bikini Day** with Pacific Northwest Bikinians. Read on for **action items** and further details on our essential work.

News and Events



[Victory in Eugene!](#)

On February 7th Eugene City Council voted 5-3 to phase out fossil fuels, like gas, in all new residential construction starting in June 2023. This is a massive step towards making our homes safer and moving towards a fossil free future.

Eugene joins 97 other cities around the country who have passed climate policy requiring or incentivizing electric appliances in new homes and buildings. With the Eugene victory, we are excited to see more cities around the country take steps towards electrification for the planet, and the health and safety of our communities.

[Read More](#)



[Oregon PSR Member Dr. Melanie Plaut on KOIN 6 News](#)

Dr. Melanie Plaut had the opportunity over the weekend to speak to the public about the health impacts of gas stoves in our homes. Check it out!

[Watch Dr Melanie Plaut Here!](#)



Bikini Atoll Commemoration Day

The Pacific Northwest Bikinians are hosting are hosting a Bikini Atoll Commemoration on Saturday March 4th at the Jackman Long Building in Salem.

[Learn More](#)



Atomic Bamboozle: The False Promise of a Nuclear Renaissance

Join us on March 12th to watch Jan Haaken's newest documentary Atomic Bamboozle! The film is a 46-minute documentary that follows anti-nuclear activists, Tribal leaders, scientists and attorneys as they draw lessons from the decades-long campaign to shut down the Trojan Nuclear Power plant in Oregon and extend those lessons into a new struggle: proposals for small modular nuclear reactors in the Pacific Northwest.

The event will be moderated by Oregon PSR member and former medical director of Multnomah County Health Department Dr. Patricia Kullberg.

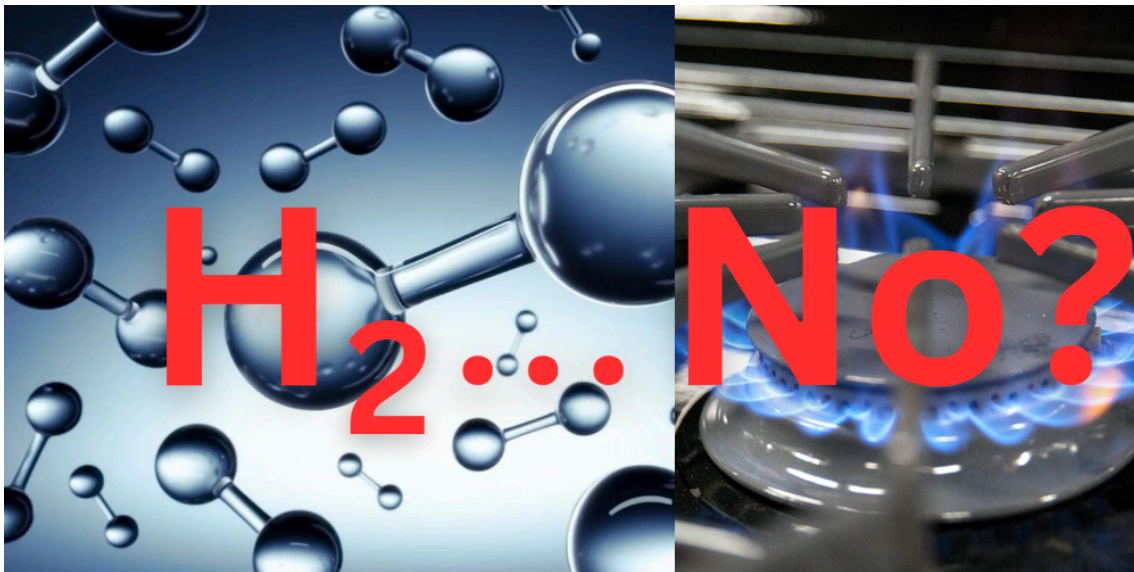
[Learn More](#)



How Visible are the Consequences of the Hanford Plutonium Production?

Join Oregon PSR members Dr. Linda Richards & Hanford Downwinder Patricia Hoover on March 3rd, as they discuss the OSU National Science Foundation Downwinders Grant Project, & the struggle to make nuclear weapons consequences visible in the Northwest.

[Learn More](#)



What are the Health Harms of Hydrogen?

Hydrogen gas has now entered the conversation around energy in a major way. We are seeing blended hydrogen in particular popping up in spaces being touted as a green, sustainable and safe fuel with a lower carbon footprint by fossil fuel companies. So, is blended hydrogen a good alternative to “natural” gas? How does it compare to electrification? Check out our article to learn more!

[Learn More](#)

Action Items

Oregon will NOT be a Nuclear Waste Dump



Nuclear Testimony Extension! Until 3pm TODAY 2/22/23

On Monday, February 13th at 3:00, [House Bill 2215](#), “the Nuclear Waste Dump bill” was heard by Oregon's House Climate, Energy, and Environment committee. **The hearing on this bill has been carried over until Monday, February 20th, 3:00 pm, which means that written testimony will be accepted until 3:00 pm TODAY, Wednesday, February 22nd.**

This bill, along with its Senate companion bill, (SB [676](#)) seek to overturn the will of the people of Oregon established by ballot measure in 1980. That 1980 measure prohibited the construction of nuclear power plants in Oregon until an adequate, national high level radioactive waste repository is federally licensed, and then the proposed nuclear plant in Oregon would be subject to statewide voter approval. If HB 2215 becomes law and is passed by Oregon voters, **it would allow the siting and operation of commercial nuclear power plants in Oregon, even though there is no federally licensed repository for its high-level nuclear waste.**

Take Action



Early Compassionate Medical Release:

Oregon provides compassionate release to eligible incarcerated individuals who have serious medical conditions or are elderly and permanently incapacitated through Early Medical Release. Over the last few years, one of the many injustices that the COVID-19 pandemic has spotlighted is how prisons fail to protect the health of adults in custody. For people who are seriously or terminally ill Oregon's process for compassionate medical release from prison is not fit for purpose. **We've learned that between 2013 and 2020 more people died in prison waiting for a decision on their release application than were actually released.**

We have a plan to improve the Oregon Early Compassionate Release System and we need your help! **Senate Bill 520** will establish an independent Medical Release Advisory Committee (MRAC) of health professionals within the Board of Parole and make recommendations for inmate medical releases based on medical and public health criteria. SB 520 will greatly improve the process for adults in custody who have pressing medical needs that cannot be met by state prisons.

Take Action

In Peace and Health,



Anna Kahler, Communications Manager

Donate

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