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Opponent Testimony HB 554  
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

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Thank you Chairman Balderson and Ranking Member Gentile for the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill (HB) 554 the continuation of the clean energy freeze.

I stand before you today representing faith leaders throughout Ohio who feel deeply convicted about protecting the Earth. Transitioning Ohio to a clean energy economy is a moral necessity, and there is no time to waste. We have a sacred duty to one another, and to our children, to care for God's creation and protect it for future generations. It's time to unfreeze the renewable energy standard.

Clean energy is a moral issue.

The Earth belongs to God, not to us. Scripture calls us to care for creation, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. That means leaving a sustainable world for our children and grandchildren, and protecting the poorest among us from the devastation of climate change.

The floods, storms, droughts and other extreme impacts of climate change have the greatest effect on the most vulnerable among us. Every day that we fail to take action puts our families and vulnerable communities at greater risk.

Clean energy makes economic sense for Ohio families.

Attached to this testimony is a list of over 100 faith leaders who share this sentiment of ending the freeze.

Thank you Mr. Chairman, I am happy to answer any questions you may have.