

House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Chairman Nino Vitale
Opponent Testimony on Substitute House Bill 6
Testimony of Paul Dvorak
Former editor of *Windpower Engineering & Development*

May 7, 2019

Chair Vitale, Vice Chair Kick, Ranking Member Denson, and Members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I am Paul Dvorak, retired now but for the previous nine years, I was the editor of the magazine *Windpower Engineering & Development*. We covered the design and maintenance of utility scale wind turbines and dozens of other issues that surround the wind industry. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today as an opponent to Ohio Substitute House Bill 6.

Last Wednesday, about 80 other people and I testified in person and, I thought, made our positions clear: HB6 and now its replacement are not Clear Power Programs and should be rewritten. At the very least the bill should include a shorter setback distance of a wind turbine to a property line. Ideally, the distance would be 550 ft as it was in 2014 before it was changed without a proper public hearing.

An equally serious objection is that the bill lets FirstEnergy Services add \$2.50 to residential bills and more to commercial and industrial users. This is outrageous. It is taxation without representation. This is simply a bailout that rewards poor management.

The 80 people who spoke last week made many cogent arguments against the bill, such as it makes Ohio less desirable for companies considering investing here, and what is to keep FirstEnergy Services from coming back in a few years asking for more? Worst of all, there was no time limit to the bailout payments.

Without the adjustments of a fix term to the bailout (no more than 10 years) and a shorter wind-turbine setback distance, this bill must die.

I appreciate your time and consideration, and please let me know if you have questions.