

**Testimony of Lindsay Humble,
Perry Nuclear Generating Station
Submitted to
Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Ohio House of Representatives**

Chairman Vitale, Vice Chairman Kick, Ranking Member Denson and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Lindsay Humble and I am a Project Manager at First Energy's Perry Nuclear Generating Station. I have also served for the last 16 years as a Construction Engineering Supervisor in the Army National Guard. I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 6, which represents an important opportunity for the Ohio Legislature to take charge of our state's energy future, while promoting clean energy and critical energy sector jobs.

For too long, decisions affecting Ohio's energy sector have been made outside our state's borders. PJM, the regional wholesale power regulator located outside Philadelphia, decides which power sources run in Ohio and how much they are paid. And PJM's decisions are heavily influenced by decades of federal and state energy policies that influence the technologies and fuel prices used to produce our electricity. PJM, for instance, bases its selection of electricity generation in Ohio exclusively on what is cheapest in the wholesale market, not on other critical factors, such as air quality, that affect our state. This sole focus on cost puts nuclear power, and all zero emission resources, at a significant disadvantage.

HB 6 will change that. It gives the Ohio Legislature the authority to make its own decisions regarding our state's energy future, factoring in key objectives that PJM ignores, such as clean air and ensuring diverse and reliable sources of electricity generation. It provides that ALL zero-carbon resources, including nuclear, solar and wind, can receive zero-emission credits. This in turn will ensure the diversity of Ohio's electricity generation, as well as its reliability. As this past and previous frigid winters have demonstrated, there is no generation source more reliable and less subject to disruption during severe weather events than nuclear power. While achieving these results, HB 6 also will reduce the cost of electricity for consumers by millions of dollars annually. These would be protections and savings achieved by Ohioans, knowing and acting on what is best for our state.

As a Project Manager in in one of the plants that makes up Ohio's nuclear fleet, I am also concerned about preserving the workforce so essential to the nuclear industry in the state. HB 6 would protect the 4,300 jobs associated with the nuclear industry in Ohio, as well as the well-paying jobs that the nuclear industry supports in the state. The legislation likewise supports the 10,000 jobs associated with the wind and solar sectors in Ohio, while creating no negative impact on the state's oil and gas industry jobs. Moreover, as a member of our nation's military, I can attest to the positive influence our nuclear energy capacity and expertise have had on the U.S. military and our national security.

I respectfully request that you consider each of these reasons for supporting HB 6 in doing what is best for the citizens of Ohio.