

**Testimony of Phil Rudolph, Jr., Rudolph Libbe Inc.**  
**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, I am Philip Rudolph Jr., Vice President of Business Development for the Rudolph Libbe Group. On behalf of our dedicated employees, I appreciate the opportunity to express my strong support for HB 6, which will protect nuclear power in Ohio while maintaining a diverse portfolio of energy sources, lowering utility bills, ensuring cleaner air and protecting jobs.

The nation's electricity generation fleet, and PJM's in particular, is changing rapidly, and preserving clean, baseload nuclear generation as ensured under HB 6 will become increasingly important in the coming years to ensure safe and reliable electricity for customers. Foremost, we must protect our zero-carbon emission sources of electricity. Without them, Ohio is at risk of inflated electricity costs and price volatility. The cost of fossil fuels fluctuates greatly with the market, resulting in uncertainty for electricity consumers.

Moreover, nuclear power is uniquely capable of coping with natural and man-made disruptions to power generation. According to a North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) report on the 2014 Polar Vortex, among the three major fuel types in the Eastern and ERCOT interconnections (coal, gas, and nuclear), "the polar vortex had the least impact on nuclear plants." According to the study, natural gas plants accounted for 55% of the outages, coal plants 26%, and nuclear plants only 3%. The polar vortex this past winter revealed the same reliability paradigm, as states that rely heavily on natural gas experienced blackouts and gas shortages, while Ohio's diverse energy supply protected consumers from price spikes and service disruptions. These energy sources must work in tandem to power Ohio efficiently, and because wind and solar technologies are inherently irregular and natural gas and coal more prone to supply disruptions, nuclear power is that much more essential to ensuring base load stability.

Ohio consumers also will see lower monthly electricity bills if HB 6 passes, as the Ohio Clean Air Program established by this legislation will replace existing renewable energy mandates. The average residential customer currently pays \$4.39 for renewable and energy efficiency/peak demand services. By eliminating these mandates under the new Ohio Clean Air Program, HB 6 will reduce the average monthly electric bill for residential customers, equating to millions in savings each year for Ohio residential customers.

For these important reasons of ensuring reliability and cost-savings, Rudolph Libbe encourages you to support HB 6. Thank you for your time and attention.