



Matthew A. Szollosi: Executive Director
Email: mszollosi@actohio.org ▪ Direct: (614) 795-3164

MEMORANDUM

To: Ohio House of Representatives – Energy & Natural Resources Committee
From: Matthew A. Szollosi
Date: 5/22/2019

Re: Sub. HB 6 – Clean Air Program

Chairman Vitale / Vice-Chair Kick / Ranking Member Denson:

Please be advised that the Affiliated Construction Trades Ohio Foundation (“ACT Ohio”) is a 501(c)(5) organization created by the Ohio State Building & Construction Trades Council to encourage economic and industrial development opportunities, and to facilitate utilization of industry-best practices for Ohio’s public and private construction. For the reasons that follow, I offer this testimony as our organization’s strong statement of support for passage of Sub. HB 6.

ACT Ohio has long maintained an “all of the above” strategy with respect to energy generation in the State of Ohio, including coal, solar, wind, natural gas and of course nuclear power. At more than 80 state-of-the-art training facilities across the state, Building Trades apprentices are acquiring the knowledge and skills to produce the high-quality craftsmanship necessary to support every facet of energy production in Ohio. These state of the art apprenticeship training centers are all 100% privately funded through employer contributions and member deductions. (The total taxpayer investment in Building Trades apprenticeship training programs is \$0).

According to the Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services (as of 9/12/18), 82% of Ohio’s construction industry apprentices are registered in our programs. This includes 91% of Ohio’s female apprentices and 86% of Ohio’s minority apprentices. Upon completion of their training, they become an essential part of our industry. Our primary interest with regard to Sub. HB 6 is directly on the jobs that the nuclear power generation industry provides our members and their families on an annual basis.

The Davis-Besse and Perry Nuclear Power Stations support thousands of stable good-paying jobs across Ohio, including over 1,000 direct employees at the 2 plants. Many of these full-time workers belong to the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (“IBEW”), earning strong wages and competitive benefits. For ACT Ohio affiliates, annual facility upgrades, maintenance and continuous capital improvements are critically important for our industry. In fact, our affiliates average nearly a quarter million hours per year at the 2 plants combined, and it is not uncommon for the hours worked to exceed 500,000 in years involving shut-downs for re-fueling or major facility or safety upgrades. These hours are very meaningful to our members and their families.

Please let me be clear: We have profound respect for our customers, investors and colleagues in every sector of the power generation market in Ohio. We appreciate every past, present and future opportunity to work on wind turbines, solar fields and of course combined cycle natural gas burners – our apprenticeship



training in many instances is specifically geared towards the latest most cutting-edge technologies so that investors can rest assured we can build anything they plan for. But we believe nuclear power is an important facet of our energy sector as well, and fully support efforts to help Davis-Besse and Perry remain viable for the foreseeable future. For these reasons, we urge passage of Sub. HB 6.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important proposal. Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Szollosi", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Matthew A. Szollosi