May 15, 2019

Chairman Vitale, Vice-Chair Kick, and Ranking Minority Member Denson and members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition to House Bill 6 (HB 6).

The Ohio Chemistry Technology Council (OCTC) is the leading advocate for Ohio’s chemical industry. We are the third largest manufacturing industry in the State of Ohio. Ohio, in turn, is the third largest chemical manufacturing state in the United States. In Ohio, the chemical technology industry employs almost 40,000 people, pays an average wage of over $85,000, and provides approximately $1.5 billion in federal, state and local taxes annually.

The chemical industry is acutely aware of the need for a robust and reliable energy system. Unfortunately, HB 6 does not create a more vibrant market and actually leads to increased uncertainty of future costs. In addition to the $300 million annual increase on ratepayers, a large portion of which will go to bailing out the two nuclear plants in Ohio, we are concerned about the bill’s reported hidden costs.

As an energy-intensive industry, we cannot be too careful in reviewing a bill that will raise our rates. OCTC asks that the committee take more time to consider HB 6.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with the Committee to address our concerns.

Sincerely,

Jenn Klein
President