

*House Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy Generation*

*Chair Dick Stein and Chair Michael O'Brien*

*Opponent Testimony on House Bill 6*

*Testimony of Bradley Holmes*

*April 23, 2019*

Chair Stein, Chair O'Brien, and Members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy Generation, my name is Bradley Holmes. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today as an opponent of Ohio House Bill 6.

As a customer of FirstEnergy and a lifelong resident of Northern Ohio, I am here to express why I am sternly opposed to the passage of HB 6. When considering whether or not this legislation would be imposing positive change in Ohio, one major aspect I've been considering is: would HB 6 promote sustainability?

As HB 6 is seeking to do, the creation of a fund that would award "clean air resources" sounds like an admirable undertaking. Unfortunately, as one reads the finer details of this legislation, it is clear that this bill is using the guise of 'clean air' rewards to provide hundreds of millions of dollars to patched-up and underperforming energy infrastructure such as FirstEnergy's nuclear facilities, or potentially to some of Ohio's struggling coal-burning power plants. All the while, if passed, this bill would reduce funding being put toward Ohio's Renewable Portfolio Standards and Energy Efficiency Programs - both of which are vital to enhancing the will of Ohio to develop in a more Green manner.

With these things considered, I hold the view that HB 6 would certainly not promote sustainability. It would fail to encourage *economic* sustainability as it is attempting to bailout old energy facilities with patchwork funding. And it certainly would fail to encourage *environmental* sustainability as it directly disrupts funding that promotes Ohio's renewable energy and energy efficiency programs.

While there are certainly more criticisms to be casted toward this legislation, I want to conclude with this. What Ohio desperately needs is innovate legislation that will actively encourage both economic and environmental sustainability - which HB 6 definitely would not do. Therefore, I am firmly opposed to HB 6.

Thank you for your time and attention. I am willing to answer any questions you may have for me.