

*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 Frida Etchell*

*April 23, 2019*

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

I speak as a resident of Ohio, a supporter of clean energy, and a young person who wants to see a better future for this state.

Upon hearing about House Bill 6 and what it entails, I must say I am deeply disappointed. From my understanding, this bill seeks to reward giant energy companies-- who have no intentions of implementing truly renewable practices-- under the guise of supporting clean energy. This bill rewards First Energy for its mismanagement of its nuclear plants AND its mismanagement of past bailouts. It would certainly be nice if consumers could receive such gifts. As a First Energy customer, receiving increases in rates has been somewhat of a norm, and not a welcome one.

While I don't mind paying towards renewable standards, I don't appreciate others choosing where my money goes without my knowledge or consent-which is exactly what will happen with this bill. That I would now have to jump through hoops simply to continue supporting renewable standards that were part of my already existing bill is outrageous and absurd. What is more absurd are the requirements that an energy facility must meet in order to be eligible for this so-called "Clean Air Program." Those requirements are tailored to the biggest companies that have no intention of implementing truly renewable standards, and this bill rewards them for that.

I must say that as a young person looking for a place to start my life, Ohio is becoming less and less appealing, and this is just one more example of our state's increasingly backwards and archaic legislation. As more and more of us move away, don't say we didn't warn you.

Thank you Chair Stein, Chair O'Brien, and members of the committee. I'm pleased to answer any questions.