

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 Paul Dvorak  
Retired and member of Cleveland Power of Wind Action Team

Chair Stein, Chair O'Brien, and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy Generation, I am Paul Dvorak, a retiree now but for the last nine years, I edited the magazine *Windpower Engineering and Development*. It dealt with the siting and maintenance of wind turbines, and hundreds of other topics that surround the wind industry. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today as an opponent to Ohio House Bill 6. I'll make three points. First, the bill is a bad idea because it encourages bad financial behavior by a utility under the guise of trimming our electric bills. What's more, if the bill to encourage saving, it should continue the energy efficiency program. The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance calculates that from 2009 to 2017, a cumulative savings of 49 million MWh has generated \$5.1 billion in customer savings. The Alliance also calculates that each dollar spent on the efficiency program produced \$2.65 in saving.

Second, by increasing electric rates, the bill will discourage the growth of the Ohio economy. Why would any company want to expand to Ohio knowing that the primary utility and Ohio legislature had finagled a lever to boost power prices... and may likely do it again?

And lastly, if the bill is really a Clean Air Program, it will include a shortening to the wind turbine setback distance so the wind industry can grow and contribute to the supply of clean power in Ohio. A modern utility-scale wind turbine produces power easily competitive with natural gas and without a subsidy so power costs should stabilize or drop. The future will need more power from new plants, not less from aging facilities. Furthermore, an economy that embraces the potential of renewable energy will encourage growth and keep more of Ohio's young people in the state rather than letting them be lured away by more forward-thinking states.

I appreciate your time and consideration and I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.