

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 Irwin Lowenstein (a resident of Shaker Heights, Ohio)**  
**President, ReThink Advisors**  
**Opposing Ohio House Bill 6**  
April 23, 2019

Chair Stein, Chair O'Brien, and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy Generation, please accept this written testimony in opposition to Ohio House Bill 6. I wish I could be with you in person today to express my passion for this matter but work commitments out of Ohio keep me from attending the committee meeting. I am Irwin Lowenstein and I am the President of ReThink Advisors, Inc. Thank you for entering my written testimony opposing Ohio House Bill 6 into the record.

I am an urban planner and architect dedicated to designing and redesigning cities of the future, cities where all people are healthy, thriving and flourishing. That vision is possible in Ohio and within reach but only if our elected officials approve progressive and forward thinking legislation to achieve that vision. Ohio House Bill 6 is not progressive, not forward thinking nor is it good for all Ohioans. It would harm Ohioans' health. It would increase carbon emissions. It would roll back investment in energy efficiency. It would put good, well paying jobs at risk. Is that your vision of a better Ohio?

Ohio House Bill 6, as currently written, effectively repeals Ohio's Renewable Portfolio Standard and Energy Efficiency Resource Standard and it has no guarantee that the funds would actually be earmarked for clean energy resources. These two policies - Ohio's Clean Energy Standards - have delivered millions in bill savings to customers, reduced carbon emissions from the power sector significantly, prevented asthma attacks, and generated new jobs and new tax revenue for Ohioans.

Ohio House Bill 6 also creates a new "Ohio Clean Air Program," which would create new subsidies for Ohio's two nuclear power plants – Davis Besse and Perry Station – as well as coal and natural gas power plants. Despite claims that renewable energy projects would qualify to receive a portion of the new subsidies, House Bill 6 creates so many exclusions that wind and solar projects are effectively disqualified. This would set an important sector of economic growth back decades.

If you, like me, want Ohioans to be healthy, thriving and flourishing with more jobs, you will, like me, oppose this regressive bill. I very much appreciate your reading and consideration of the foregoing.