



**ACORE PRESIDENT &
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
Gregory Wetstone

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Giordano, **Chair**
Managing Director, Global Head,
Renewable Power, *BlackRock*

Patrick Reiten, **Treasurer**
Senior VP for Gov't Relations
Berkshire Hathaway Energy

Shannon Kellogg, **Secretary**
Vice President of AWS Public Policy –
Americas, *Amazon*

Vikas Agrawal
Head of Alternative Energy Investing
Goldman Sachs

Frank Armijo
Vice President, *Lockheed Martin Corp.*

Mit Buchanan
Managing Partner, Energy Investments
J.P. Morgan

Mona Dajani
Partner, *Pillsbury, Winthrop, Shaw,
Pittman LLP*

Declan Flanagan
Executive VP & CEO Onshore, *Orsted*

Neil Gerber
Global Director, New Energy and
Environment, *IBM*

Kevin Gresham
VP Gov't Relations & External Affairs
RWE Renewables Americas, LLC

Skip Grow
Managing Director, *Morgan Stanley*

George Hardie
VP & Director Business Development NA
Pattern Energy Group

Bobby Hollis
Head of Global Energy, Environment &
Site Selection, *Facebook*

Ja Kao
President & CEO
Onyx Renewable Partners

Kevin Lynch
Managing Director, *Avangrid Renewables*

Jim Murphy
President & COO, *Invenergy*

Phil Musser
VP, Gov't Affairs, *Next Era Energy*

Susan Nickey
Managing Director, *Hannon Armstrong*

Gaurav Raniwala
Global Renewable Energy Leader
GE Energy Financial Services

Himanshu Saxena
CEO, *Starwood Energy Group*

Kathy Weiss
VP, Federal Gov't Affairs, *First Solar*

Ray Wood
Managing Director, *Bank of America*

February 10, 2020

Sen. Steve Wilson, Chair
Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Ohio State Senate
1 Capitol Square Ste. 2
Columbus, OH 43215

Sen. Sandra Williams, Ranking Member
Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Ohio State Senate
1 Capitol Square Ste. 2
Columbus, OH 43215

Opposition to S.B. No. 234

Dear Chairman Wilson and Ranking Member Williams:

On behalf of the hundreds of member companies of the American Council of Renewable Energy (ACORE) — including investors, manufacturers, and developers of wind power in Ohio — I write in strong opposition to S.B. No. 234.

If enacted into law, S.B. No. 234 would implement an onerous and unfair township referendum process that discriminates against wind energy development. No other energy resource would be subject to such a process. Effective and predictable policy established through the Ohio Power Siting Board is essential to unlock the immense investment potential for renewable energy in Ohio. S.B. No. 234 goes in precisely the opposite direction.

Ohio's abundant wind resource has to date attracted over \$1.4 billion in investment and produced 738 megawatts of clean and affordable wind energy, or enough to power more than 170,000 homes. Additionally, Ohio is a national leader in wind-related manufacturing, with 60 manufacturing facilities helping to support thousands of good-paying jobs across the state. This economic activity produces \$7 million in state and local tax payments annually, and millions more in lease payments to rural Ohio communities. S.B. No. 234 puts these gains and future investment and wind energy deployment in the Buckeye State at significant risk.

ACORE and its member companies are committed to helping Ohio achieve its renewable energy and economic development goals. S.B. No. 234 will not advance either of these mutual objectives.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these important issues further. Please feel free to contact myself at wetstone@acore.org or ACORE's Chief Operating Officer Bill Parsons at parsons@acore.org if we can provide any additional information that would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Gregory Wetstone
President & CEO