

Ladies and Gentlemen members of the subcommittee:

My name is Bob Scott. I'm a Maintenance Supervisor at the Gavin Power plant Located in Gallia County. I currently have 25 plant employees and 45 contractors reporting to me. Thank you for taking the time to let us speak today. As a Combat Veteran and an Ohioan, it means a lot to me.

I have 25 years of power generation experience, starting in the union trades, then into the plant 15 years ago, and the last 4 as a supervisor, so I think this gives me a good idea of power deregulation from each level. The men and women I work with have a strong sense of pride in their work and in Ohio. They have worked long hours and sacrificed time at home to bring Gavin to the forefront of power generation, not only here in Ohio but in the U.S. You must remember we deregulated because all Ohio Utility Companies wanted this, including First Energy. Myself and my coworkers had to adapt (from the person cleaning the restrooms to the plant manager) to keep our plant competitive in an open market. Now proponents of House Bill 6 want to make an unlevel playing field in power generation here in Ohio.

Ohio's Muskingum River, Tanners Creek, Stuart Station or Killen Station were allowed to close with no subsidy offered for them.

How would House Bill 6 impact Gavin? If other plants were granted a subsidy, it would create an unfair advantage for the subsidized plants in what is supposed to be a competitive free trade market. Currently we have 209 plant employees and 550 contractors on site right now as we are in an outage working toward being even more reliable and competitive. This happens twice a year at Gavin, once on each unit.

In southern Ohio, Gavin is a sole source of income for hundreds of people and an indirect source for almost the entire county, a county that would be forced to pay for House Bill 6 while watching the negative impact it would have on them.

In closing I would like to say I do not believe any one plant is more important than any other. They are all important to power generation in Ohio. We have a deregulated power industry in Ohio so ALL are DEREGULATED. To give a subsidy to one and not all would not only be contrary to the law that was passed for deregulation and unethical in a free market. It almost feels like we are being discriminated against because of where we work.

I would like to thank the House for giving me the opportunity to speak here today. I will be Praying that the Lord guide you in the right decision.