

Matt Hubbs Testimony

Good morning. I'm Matt Hubbs and I have worked at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station for over seven years. As a member of the nuclear power industry, I cannot tell you how much my fellow workers and I appreciate our jobs and the opportunity those jobs give us to contribute to Ohio's energy security, economy, and way of life. I urge you to lead the General Assembly in support House Bill 6 and prevent our nuclear fleet from being run out of business.

I am proud of the work I do, as all of us are at Davis-Besse. The nuclear power sector is a critical support for clean energy production, our best defense against climate change and the dangers it poses for future generations.

No other source of zero-emission electricity is nearly as productive as nuclear. The FENOC nuclear fleet generates 90 percent of all the carbon-free power made in our state. If the plants close down, Ohio would not only lose all of that clean energy, but 14 percent of its entire energy supply. That would be bad for the environment and bad for ratepayers as well.

Jobs in Ohio nuclear plants pay decent wages that allow workers to provide for our families. From our wages, we pay state and local taxes that help fund schools, public services, infrastructure, and fire and police protection.

Nuclear workers are involved in the Ohio towns where they live, volunteering countless hours and making monetary contributions to support everything from Little League teams to food banks.

If Davis-Besse and Perry are taken offline, 4,300 good Ohio jobs will be lost. And people who think other power generators, like natural gas-fired plants, will make up those jobs are fooling themselves. Nuclear plants employ as many as 800 workers each, the average natural gas facility hires fewer than 50 workers.

Allowing the FENOC fleet to be forced out of business would be a devastating blow to the communities where the plants are located, and to our entire state economy as well.

In addition to thousands of jobs lost, utility rates would rise. Ohio's primary source of zero-carbon power would vanish. Billions of dollars that have been invested in our nuclear plants would be wasted and the \$30 million a year in state and local taxes paid by nuclear power operators would disappear.

For all these reasons I ask the members of this committee to support passage of House Bill 6, and please urge your fellow Ohio legislators to do the same.

Thank you.