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Representative Callender
Chairman, Ohio House Public Utilities Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
Rife Center Building
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Representative Callender:

I urge your committee to vote NO on SB33. I live in Belmont County, OH, where there are more frack sites (662 permitted, at various stages of development) than any other county in the state of Ohio. Not only is there much fracking in my home county that directly impacts me by way of diesel pollution from fracking industry truck traffic and a potential frack pad going in across from my property- now the petrochemical industry wants to build an ethane cracker plant in Dilles Bottom, (Belmont County) OH. This is a very bad idea for Belmont County and Appalachia. Citizens are very unhappy about this (fracking and potential cracker plant) in my region. We have a right to oppose this industry as Americans. Ohio law is in favor of the oil and gas industry when it comes to mineral rights by using unitization. Sometimes the only thing they have left is their voice and this bill would create a chilling effect if it were to be passed.

Not only would it cause a chilling effect, but it would criminalize those who are simply present at a rally or demonstration if someone in the crowd does something to the infrastructure. If someone at a rally decides to trespass or ruin property, they should face penalties, but those are covered under other laws. This bill is unnecessary and only benefits special interests, such as the oil and gas industry.

If you, Chairman Callender and Public Utilities Committee members believed in something to the point of rallying with others who stood behind you, wouldn't you want to be able to do that without the potential of facing a felony and hefty fines simply for being present? I urge you to stand for democracy and note NO on SB33.

Thank you,

Beverly Reed