

Testimony of Vince Campise

Marketing Manager, Buckeye Power Sales, Blacklick, OH
Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Power Generation

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Good morning Co-Chairman Stein, Co-Chairman O'Brien and Members of the Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Power Generation. This is an exciting time and I am grateful for the opportunity to sit before you today and voice support for House Bill 6.

I'm Vince Campise Marketing Manager for Buckeye Power Sales in Blacklick, Ohio and Board Chair of the Ohio Wind Energy Association. Our company has been operating in the energy business for over 70 years and in that time there have been many innovations that have spurred growth for our business. Founded in 1947, Buckeye Power Sales is the power solutions provider for business, contractors, engineers, municipalities and homeowners across Ohio. From power generation to light construction to grounds care— we have the machines, equipment, parts & service for any size project or property.

Let me just start by saying that Ohio's existing clean energy and renewable portfolio standards need some change. The current levels are nearly impossible to achieve and have proven to be less than useful in spurring the growth and innovation originally promised under the Strickland Administration in 2008. What should be a thriving component of our state's economy has been stagnant for almost a decade. House Bill 6 provides a real opportunity for growth and innovation for Ohio businesses, Ohio citizens, and companies that want to invest in Ohio.

Under current law, amended in 2014 by Senate Bill 310 which also froze the standards, the State is to achieve 12.5% of its energy from renewable sources by 2027. Today, Ohio hovers around 4%, at best. Plus, there are clean energy sources that should be part of this, like nuclear, but they are not, and our renewable energy credit program can hardly be considered robust, as shown by AEP's possible \$4.5 billion purchase of an Oklahoma wind farm (Wind Catcher).

As an entrepreneur-at-heart who deeply believes in the opportunities and possibilities that come with a clean energy economy it has been very disappointing to watch — to say the least.

Committee Members, I am addressing you today because House Bill 6 is the opportunity we have been waiting for to change the course for clean energy and the potential for energy innovations for the state of Ohio. We are excited to have rules that could allow some of what we do be considered clean energy, we are working on a partnership with the Columbus Clippers providing them all-electric equipment for their field maintenance. To bigger industrial applications, using the heat bi-product from large gas generators to heat water in a manufacturing process.

A diverse energy portfolio has lasting impacts on every aspect of Ohio's economy. With smart investments, we can alleviate stress on our power grid and maintain stability. Manufacturers, logistics and other companies heavily dependent on electricity for their livelihood will be able to afford to make improvements that increase their productivity — ultimately creating more jobs and more investments in our communities.

House Bill 6 is our chance to replace an ineffective system with something entirely new. Something that works. It's our chance to reinvigorate a segment of our economy that has been eager to grow, but restrained by weak policies.

House Bill 6 is our chance to bring new clean energy businesses, secure millions in local investments and create thousands of jobs to Ohio. All this is only possible through House Bill 6 and the new Ohio Clean Air Program.

I understand change can be difficult for some. All of us are guilty at some point of being afraid of something we don't completely understand or maintaining a less than ideal status quo. Those who will realize future benefits from this program may not know yet, and those who oppose it may not even know why. As someone who deeply believes in responsible business practices, sustainability and policies that protect the health and safety of every resident — I can tell you that this change is long overdue and extremely needed.

As Chair of the Ohio Wind Energy Association, we are fully evaluating these newly introduced measures and will be voting on an official position of support in the coming weeks. Although we appreciate our national wind energy organization, it is clear Ohioans need a voice with Ohio's values and best interests in mind, where members are vested first and foremost in Ohio's future.

House Bill 6 will reinvent our system, opening it to new opportunities for all of us. This new structure will make it possible for entrepreneurs to expand opportunities and bring new innovations we can't even imagine today.

Not from Silicon Valley, not from China. These are innovations that will come from right here. The heart of America. Ohio.

Thank you for carrying the torch and for your work to make House Bill 6 and what it will bring a reality for all of us.

Thank you again for your time and consideration.