

Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee  
Chairman Steve Wilson  
Opponent Testimony on Substitute House Bill 6  
Testimony of Hannah Spring

June 17, 2019

Chair Wilson, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Williams, and Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, my name is Hannah Spring, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today as an opponent to Substitute House Bill 6.

I am strongly opposed to Substitute House Bill 6 because of its lack of honesty, as well as its utter disregard for public health. No fund that is truly for “Clean Air” will ever include subsidies for coal plants (successful or bankrupt), and exclude wind and solar farms from the same benefits. Under the definitions of this bill’s “clean air resource”, only *utility-owned* solar and wind farms above a certain size would be eligible for clean air credits. No utility-owned wind or solar farms large enough exist in Ohio to benefit from this bill. Nuclear power is not renewable, and neither are fossil fuels. Substitute HB6 is a far cry from a renewable energy bill or a clean air fund, and to put it under the guise as such is abhorrent and boldly lying to Ohio citizens.

However, those who wrote Substitute HB6 must not believe people have read this bill and know what it entails, and have also been paying attention to First Energy’s previous attempts for bailout after bailout. I assure you, many people are privy to the true beneficiary of Substitute HB6; it is not Ohioan families and their children; it is not the Ohio economy; it is not the renewable energy industry; but First Energy and First Energy Solutions alone. If the Ohio State Senate passes this bill, all of Ohio will know to whose loyalty the House and Senate belongs. I do not want to live in a state where its public servants have forgotten who they were elected to serve. I do not want to see the environmental, economic and public health repercussions Ohio will face if this bill passes. Passing a bailout bill such as Substitute HB6 will ignite community distrust, and the rest of the country will look at our energy policies in dismay and pity. I want Ohio to be looked up to, not looked down upon as we contemplate a bill that will certainly put us many steps back. Please, vote no on Substitute House Bill 6 and prove to your constituents that you are here for honest and just policy that serves them, and not for private company bidding.

I appreciate your time and consideration today, I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.