



Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Chairman Steve Wilson
Opponent Testimony on Substitute House Bill 6
Written Only Testimony from Clif Bar

June 17, 2019

Chair Wilson, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Williams, and Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Substitute House Bill 6 (HB 6). **Clif Bar opposes provisions of HB 6 that would repeal Ohio's Renewable Portfolio and the Energy Efficiency Resource Standards.** We are part of a [coalition of 20 Ohio businesses, institutions, employers and investors](#) that support the standards (letter attached). As you and your colleagues consider this legislation, please know that: (1) **renewables and energy efficiency save us money**; and (2) **the business community supports Ohio's clean energy standards because they enable investment in these technologies.**

Clif Bar strongly opposes the provisions of HB 6 that repeal Ohio's clean energy standards. HB 6 would repeal Ohio's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) and the Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS). The loss of energy efficiency programs will be especially problematic for the smaller businesses that make up our supply chain, a number of whom are located in Ohio. It will be more difficult for these companies to reduce energy waste, making it harder for them to cut energy costs and stay competitive with their peers in other states. The loss of both the RPS and the EERS will be detrimental to the state's economy and to Clif Bar's ability to invest in clean technologies in Ohio.

Clif Bar understands first hand the significant economic value of both renewables and energy efficiency. We source 100% renewable electricity at all Clif-owned and -operated facilities, and are committed to achieving 50% renewable energy within our supply chain by 2020. We are not alone in this pursuit: 39 companies in Ohio have committed to power their operations with 100 percent renewable energy.¹ Our ability to procure renewable energy resources for our facilities – including in

¹ Includes: ABInBev, AkzoNobel, Amazon (committed, but not formally in the RE100 network), Apple, AstraZeneca, AXA, Bank of America, Citi, Clif Bar & Company, Danone, eBay, Facebook, Fifth Third Bancorp, General Motors, Givaudan, H&M, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, IKEA, Kellogg, Kingspan, The L'OCCITANE Group, Mars, Microsoft, Morgan Stanley, Nestle, NIKE, P&G, RELX Group, Royal Philips, RICOH Company, SAP, Schneider Electric, SGS, Starbucks, T-Mobile, UBS, Voya Financial, Wal-Mart Stores, Wells Fargo & Co.. <http://there100.org/companies>



Ohio – are a major consideration when we make business decisions. The prolonged uncertainty surrounding Ohio’s clean energy standards make the state less competitive for companies like ours who seek access to cost-effective clean energy resources.

Energy efficiency is the cheapest form of energy. Energy efficiency is not a cost, it is an investment that unlocks long-term savings. Policies and programs enable a diversity of cost-effective energy efficiency options for businesses. These options are critical for overcoming upfront costs barriers and creating long-term savings. They can also support a company's decision to allocate capital towards clean energy products, systems and service within Ohio, over other competing investment opportunities.

Efficiency and renewables keep electricity costs low and predictable over the long term. Businesses are big electricity users and sensitive to electricity prices. When we reduce electricity waste and invest in renewables, we save money, increase profits, grow market share and create more jobs. Policies that keep energy costs low and predictable over the long-term are a major consideration when we make business decisions and investments, especially in an increasingly global economy. Clif Bar wants to continue to invest here in Ohio, and keeping electricity clean and costs low is of utmost importance.

Ohio’s Renewable and Energy Efficiency Standards create economic opportunity for the state. Analysis has found that Ohio’s original clean energy standards boosted economic growth and saved ratepayers millions of dollars annually from reduced electricity bills annually.² These benefits compound across the state, supporting local suppliers along the clean energy supply chain, boosting job growth, and capturing tax revenues. Clif Bar strongly supports clean energy standards like the RPS and the EERS as key policies that drive cost-effective clean energy deployment, innovation, and investment in the state.

Repealing Ohio’s RPS and EERS would move the state in the wrong direction. We ask that you remove the provisions repealing the standards from this bill.

Thank you for considering, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,



Elysa Hammond
Vice President of Environmental Stewardship
Clif Bar & Company

² http://www.poweringohio.org/files/2018/05/Powering-Ohio_FINAL-WEB.pdf



Dear Senate President Obhof and House Speaker Householder,

As businesses, institutions, employers and investors in Ohio, we strongly oppose legislation that would weaken Ohio’s renewable and energy efficiency standards and efforts to allow commercial and industrial customers to opt out of energy saving programs. Weakening these policies will lead to higher energy costs and create prolonged uncertainty for businesses and investors operating in Ohio.

Clean energy standards help businesses and institutions cut energy costs, hedge against fuel price volatility, and help us stay competitive. They also help us plan ahead and make sound investment decisions into the future. For Ohio’s health care providers, strong standards are also about health – with clean energy leading to better patient outcomes. Undercutting the current standards will further constrain investment and growth in the state by removing the requirements for utilities to invest in some of the most competitive and least-cost energy resources—renewable energy and energy efficiency. We write to collectively express our strong opposition to any provisions which would weaken Ohio’s clean energy standards.

While the original standards were in place, investments in Ohio’s clean energy sector created thousands of new jobs and stimulated over \$160 million in annual GDP growth. In addition, ratepayers were saving hundreds of millions of dollars each year on their bills, and were on track to save more than \$5 billion by 2020.¹ States with clean energy standards are better able to meet the needs of businesses and offer diverse energy options—helping Ohio compete in today’s global economy.

We recognize the significant economic opportunity presented by renewable energy and energy efficiency standards and urge you to vote against this legislation and protect Ohio’s clean energy economy. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,
Alliance for Industrial Efficiency
Ameresco, Inc.

¹ Ohio’s energy efficiency standard alone has saved Ohio customers \$5.1 billion in energy bill savings from 2009-2017.

Burton Snowboards
Clif Bar & Company
Cree Lighting
Energy Management Solutions, Inc.
Friends Fiduciary
Heat is Power Association
IKEA
Ingersoll Rand
JLL
Midwest Cogeneration Association (MCA)
Nestlé
National Association of Energy Service Companies (NAESCO)
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA)
Reclim LLC
Schneider Electric
Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA) - Cleveland Chapter
Trillium Asset Management
Unitarian Universalist Association
United Technologies

CC:

Governor Mike DeWine
Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Members of the House of Representatives Energy and Natural Resources Committee

For more information or to connect with the signatories, please contact helfrich@ceres.org