



Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Opponent Testimony on Sub. House Bill 6
Submitted by Ted Ford
President, Ohio Advanced Energy Economy

June 27, 2019

Chairman Wilson, Vice Chairman McColley, Ranking Member Williams, and Members of the Energy and Public Utilities Committee, my name is Ted Ford, President, Ohio Advanced Energy Economy. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today as an opponent to Substitute House Bill 6.

Advanced Energy Economy (AEE) is a national association of businesses that provide advanced energy products and services and companies that use those products and services. A list of our members can be found in the attachment to this testimony. Advanced energy encompasses a broad range of innovative products and services that constitute the best available technologies for meeting energy needs today and tomorrow. Among these are energy efficiency, demand response, energy storage, natural gas electric generation, solar, wind, hydro, nuclear, electric vehicles, biofuels and smart grid.

First, I would like to thank the Chair and members of the Committee for the improvements made in the Committee's substitute bill. Retaining the renewable energy and energy efficiency standards is critical to Ohio's energy future and economic competitiveness.

However, AEE remains opposed to Sub. HB 6 because the standards are being reduced in this bill at a time when other states are increasing their goals in response to growing consumer demand for cleaner, lower cost energy. We are also concerned that the bill appears to end the requirement that utilities procure a percentage of their energy from renewable sources after 2026. Terminating the procurement requirement after 2026 will make it more difficult to obtain long-term financing for renewable energy projects in Ohio and could cancel out the benefits of the supplemental renewable energy credits in the bill. We urge the Committee to restore the language that would require the utilities to acquire 8.5% of their energy from renewable sources in 2026 and "every year thereafter." This will ensure that Ohio does not go backward on renewable energy after 2026 and will make projects in Ohio financeable.

I appreciate your time and consideration today,