

Chair Wilson, Vice Chair McColley and members of this committee,

My name is Mary Ellen Berger and I live in Columbus OH. I testified twice against HB6 when this bill was introduced. I received notice late yesterday about the revisions your committee has made to this bill. Many of us cannot make a hearing on such short notice. I am submitting quick comments for the record opposing this bill.

We need a comprehensive energy strategy in Ohio. I am opposed to substitute HB6 - it is still a corporate bailout for First Energy, and it would reduce our renewable energy and efficiency standards. I don't know how to make this clear to all of you - this is the Opposite direction we need to go in! The future is clean, renewable energy! Not nuclear, coal or even gas. We have thousands of clean energy jobs in Ohio that would be impacted by this substitute bill. Jobs in the clean energy sector are growing at twice the rate as the rest of the economy. This bill hurts, not helps that industry. We need to Expand clean energy and should give more incentives to do so.

Ohioans want clean air- and water, and land. We are very worried about climate change. Recent polling from the Ohio Conservative Energy Forum finds that two-thirds of *conservative* voters support expanding Ohio's commitment to renewable energy to 50% of the state's electricity. The substitute bill goes in the opposite direction. Ohioans want clean energy - from truly clean renewable sources like wind and solar, not old nuclear or coal plants.

I ask this committee and our legislature to represent your constituents, not corporate interests. Don't rush to pass a bad bill that is still a corporate bailout and would hurt a growing clean energy industry. Please vote NO on sub HB 6, and work on a comprehensive energy policy that looks to the future, not the past.

Thank you,
Mary Ellen Berger
Columbus, OH