

Interested Party Testimony

Steven Arndt

Senate Energy And Public Utilities Committee

SB 346

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Chairman Wilson, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Williams, Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, my name is Steven Arndt and I want to thank you for allowing me to submit my written testimony as it pertains to SB 346. Before I begin my comments I want to thank each and everyone of you for all your hard work during this session! A forward looking energy policy for Ohio while complex must be relevant for not only today but the foreseeable future. Fitting that policy within the confines of PJM's market construct while addressing fuel security and the generation attributes necessary to support a resilient grid under stress is simply not a short study. Your measured and deliberate approach as you considered and improved HB 6 with safe guards etc. was truly appreciated.

I will be brief with my comments and will not be redundant knowing you have heard hour's of testimony over the many months both with HB 6 and now SB 346. While I looked for an opportunity to add to Chairman Randazzo testimony, I can't, it was on point and thorough!

We are both aware how complex HB 6 was and is as we reassessed and redirected Ohio's energy laws and policies to benefit the Ohio's Bob and Betty Buckeye. Today because of HB 6 Ohio's energy laws and policy are both relevant for Ohio consumers and energy producers, while supporting a balanced portfolio. HB 6 implements the necessary changes because of Federal policy, laws and a distorted market construct. Without HB 6 Ohio would continue to lose meaningful generation facilities and preserve the barriers that prevented investments that add resiliency and security for the future.

I voted in support of HB 6 just a few short months ago as a member of the Ohio House, because it was good legislation and policy. I still believe that today despite the fact of what some may have done. In fact I question whether there would even be a SB 346 if it wasn't for those actions! I simply cannot support reverting back to costly old policy that puts Ohio at a disadvantage while other states advance. Clearly the old laws and costly mandates didn't achieve the intended goals and certainly won't in the future. In my estimation HB 6 was long overdue and finally we have an Ohio energy policy that benefits Ohio's residents and businesses first.

In closing there was good reason for all the months of hard work on HB 6, it has the safe guards and reporting built in, monitor it but please do not support SB 346 or all was for naught.

Again thank you for your time and deliberation.

Respectfully

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