

# Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition



## Cities

*Maumee*

*Northwood*

*Oregon*

*Perrysburg*

*Rossford*

*Sylvania*

*Toledo*

*Waterville*

## Villages

*Delta*

*Holland*

*Ottawa Hills*

*Walbridge*

## Townships

*Lake*

*Perrysburg*

## Counties

*Lucas*

### **PROPONENT TESTIMONY –HB 260 House Public Utilities Committee**

**Thomas Hays**

**On Behalf of the Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition  
And its 15 Member Communities**

**May 26, 2021**

Chair Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Ranking Member Smith and members of the Public Utilities Committee thank you for this opportunity to present written testimony.

The Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition (NOAC) and its 15 member communities serve 125,000 residential, small business, and family farm customers in our electric aggregations. We have a simple goal: provide the lowest energy prices to our customers. Our competitive processes saved customers more than \$100 million over the past twenty years.

NOAC supports HB 260 because it returns money to customers when the Supreme Court determines that customers were wrongly overcharged in violation of Ohio law. It is a blatant injustice for big electric companies to keep customers' money that they were illegally forced to pay.

In recent years, the PUCO approved FirstEnergy's Rider DMR. While the appeal to the Ohio Supreme Court was pending, FirstEnergy's customers paid over \$400 million. Ultimately, the Ohio Supreme Court found that the charge was an unlawful subsidy to FirstEnergy, but customers did not get back one dime of the \$400 million.

We ask that the Committee pass HB 260 because it will stop this from happening again and consider additional legislation that requires FirstEnergy to repay customers the over \$400 million that was determined to be unlawful. That will make the victims whole.

NOAC thanks this Committee for the opportunity to testify.