

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: May 15, 2021

Name: Patrick J. O'Connor

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): N/A

Position/Title: N/A

Address: 19001 East Shoreland Avenue

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Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): S.B. No. 52

Specific Issue: Revise law governing wind farms and solar facilities

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

Will your testimony be written, spoken, or both? Written

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

SB52 is bad legislation in so many ways. It undermines the existing due process that is mandated by current law. The Ohio Power Siting Board must include public hearings for local residents during the certification application, a process that has served long and well the energy needs of Ohio. SB52 caters to a vocal minority at the expense of individual land owners and the citizens at large who favor clean renewable energy. Why is the legislature proposing to single out these two forms of energy generation for stricter review while fossil generated producers are given a free pass? Why are residents of one part of the state given more voice than those living elsewhere. Ohio needs to increase its energy portfolio and diversify its production to clean renewables. Wind and solar are growing throughout the country. Certainly Ohio could use the additional revenue from these sources to fund schools and local governments. But if measures like SB52 become law, no developer in their right-thinking capitalist mind would ever want to go through the OPSB certification process and then run the risk of having their efforts and financial investment thwarted by a referendum mounted by a minority who are motivated more by 'not in my backyard' thinking than broad minded citizens who see the bigger picture for growth in Ohio. Further-more, the private market is demanding cleaner economical renewable energy. SB52 will only leave Ohio further behind the energy curve.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.