

December 11, 2023

## Testimony of Timothy Wagner, resident of Columbus Ohio

Dear Chair Kick, Vice-Chair Lear, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee,

I am writing in opposition to HB 308 – a proposal to classify energy generated by nuclear reaction as green energy.

The bill overlooks three major factors in the production of energy from nuclear reaction – the production of the fuel, the disposal of the radioactive wastes, and the decommissioning of the nuclear reactors.

- 1) There are many carbon-burning steps that go into the production of the fuel used in nuclear reactors that should be taken into consideration regarding the “greenness” of this energy production technology. These carbon-burning steps include the mining, milling, enrichment and transportation of the uranium. When the carbon consumption of these steps is considered, energy generated by nuclear reaction is NOT green energy.
- 2) The carbon-burning aspects of dealing with the accumulating wastes of nuclear reaction have not been considered in this bill. Since no solution to this problem has been found during the over 50 years of the waste production and accumulation, calculating the carbon consumption of an unknown solution is difficult. One methodology would be to examine the carbon consumption of solutions that have been proposed over the years. I doubt that any of these methods would be considered “green” solutions.
- 3) Each nuclear reactor will face decommissioning and the methodologies used in this long process are known. The carbon costs of these methods must be calculated and considered before declaring energy produced from nuclear reaction to be “green energy”.

I encourage you to expand your vision in your consideration of this challenging energy generation technology.