



House Resolution 469 – Proponent Testimony
Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Ohio Gas Association – President Jimmy Stewart
Wednesday, June 12th 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Hall, Vice-Chair Lear, Ranking Member Rogers and Members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on House Resolution 469.

My name is Jimmy Stewart and I am President of the Ohio Gas Association - a natural gas trade organization that represents more than 30 local distribution companies and cooperatives, affiliated members, and the vast majority of intra- and inter-state gas transmission companies in Ohio. Collectively, OGA members serve more than 3.6 million Ohio customers and maintain and manage over 50,000 miles of distribution and transmission pipeline throughout the state.

I would like to thank you and the members of the Ohio House Energy and Natural Resources Committee for your consideration of House Resolution 469. This important resolution urges the US EPA to withdraw its proposed regulations on greenhouse gas emissions and urges the United States Congress to take action to prevent the regulations from taking effect. On behalf of the Ohio Gas Association, I am submitting this testimony in support of adoption of House Resolution 469.

The US EPA regulations referenced in House Resolution 469 do not consider the necessary electric grid reliability that the natural gas network is able to supply, especially during extreme weather events. They also do not consider the huge role that natural gas is already playing in reducing CO2 emissions in the United States. Furthermore, these regulations are scheduled to become effective at a time when electricity demand is projected to rise significantly due to factors such as transportation electrification, proliferation of Artificial Intelligence and data centers, population growth, and increased domestic manufacturing. Realistically, the only viable option for meeting this additional demand for baseload electric generation is natural gas. For these and other reasons, the US EPA should be encouraging rather than preventing the use of natural gas-fired generation in the years ahead.

Ohio's proximity to the Utica and Marcellus Shale producing regions has provided a huge global competitive advantage for the state over the last 15 years. In 2022, Ohio was both the seventh largest consumer and producer of natural gas. Everyday our member companies safely deliver inexpensive, reliable, and clean natural gas to homes, businesses, large industrial users, and power



generation facilities across the state. These US EPA regulations pose an enormous threat to Ohio's economy which relies on affordable and reliable energy.

The Ohio Gas Association supports House Resolution 469, and we urge you, the Members of the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the entire Ohio House of Representatives to adopt this important piece of legislation as soon as is possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jimmy Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jimmy Stewart
President
Ohio Gas Association