



Representative Dick Stein
Ohio House District 54

HB 308 Senate Testimony
Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
November 19, 2024

Chairman Reineke, Vice-chair McColley, Ranking Member Smith and Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak to House Bill 308 and the potential nuclear power has to promote green energy as green energy resource for Ohio.

Ohio is no stranger to nuclear energy, our two nuclear plants one built in 1978 and the other in 1986 have been providing carbon-free green energy for over 75 years combined. At a time when our state, our country, and the world look to reduce CO2 emissions classifying nuclear energy as green energy makes sense. We have all heard the mantra "all of the above" when it comes to our grid. "All of the above" adds resilience, reliability and yes leads us to a greener future.

You might wonder how green is Ohio's nuclear fleet. In 2021 12.4% or 15,617 GWh (this would power approximately 1.75 million homes for a year) of carbon-free electricity was produced from Ohio's two nuclear reactors. For a better understanding of the CO2 mitigated from Ohio's air a bit of math is in order. Using a mix of fossil fuel sources one GWh of electricity creates on average 442 tons of CO2. So, using the annual production of 15,617 GWh of electricity from Ohio's two nuclear power plants we have mitigated nearly 7 million tons of CO2 from our atmosphere. Over forty years this is a staggering savings of 280 million tons of CO2 mitigated from Ohio's air.

However, Ohio's current fleet represents our past, and moving forward we must encourage new advanced reactor development to meet future CO2 goals. Goals that not only reduce carbon but reuse our existing spent fuel, could be seen as the ultimate form of recycling. Ohio recently with the passage of HB33 created the Ohio Nuclear Authority. This agency under the Department of Development will promote research and development of new safer and in the long run affordable generation. While reducing our nuclear stockpile, creating medical isotopes, and providing good-paying jobs to our Ohio Citizens. This green nuclear designation is simply another signal to the nuclear industry that Ohio wants to be a partner in this fast-growing nuclear renaissance. Micro reactors, SMR's both conventional and molten salt, and in the future fusion are all part of our "all of the above" future. I hope you will join our vision for this brighter future.

Thank you for your time and we would be happy to answer any questions you may have following Representative Brennen's testimony.

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