

Witness Testimony Opposed to Ohio House Bill 308

December 8, 2024

Dear Chair Reineke, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee:

I would like to draw your attention to the definition of “Green” as defined in the “Webster’s New World College Dictionary.” These are my arguments against HB 308:

1. Green – the color that is characterized by green plants or foliage. There is nothing green about nuclear power or its generating facilities, its waste products and its impact on the surrounding environment.
2. Green referring to a person who is simple (minded) or deceitful. The citizens of Ohio are neither simple nor should be deceived by their elected officials, so the argument that nuclear power would be beneficial is deceitful in terms of health risks, costs that would be passed on to the citizens, or the enormous environmental impact associated with their waste products.
3. Green relating to, or advocating ecological awareness, or preservation of natural resources. The impact on populations surrounding nuclear facilities is neither beneficial nor safe; the land and water resources are often contaminated, factory workers have increased risks of developing cancers; their blood cannot be used for others; their clothing represents a risk to their families. There is no natural benefit having a nuclear power station located in Ohio without risking the health, safety or longevity of surrounding citizens. Is this the legacy you want to provide for your families? We all know what happens when a nuclear facility is damaged through mismanagement, human error or possibly sabotage. The facility and surrounding area can be contaminated for 2 to 3 generations or longer. Look at Three Mile Island, for example, or the Chernobyl disaster of April 26, 1986.
4. Green with envy. Are you looking to profit from this bill, thanks to the advocacy of lobbyists? Is greed your motivation? When the costs associated with the building of nuclear facilities are passed on to Ohio consumers, they will not profit.

Support of solar, wind and water producing energy can be characterized as “green” but not nuclear generated power.

Suzanne Koebel

Columbus, Ohio