



Proponent Testimony by Mike Wise on Senate Bill 275 Senior Counsel and VP of Government Relations CEP Renewables Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee December 10, 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 submit proponent testimony on behalf of Senate Bill 275 (SB 275). My name is Mike Wise, and I am Senior Counsel and VP of Government Relations for CEP Renewables.

SB 275 is an incredible economic development bill that will foster billions, yes billions of dollars of private capital investment into Ohio's brownfields and other distressed property. I know this because CEP is making these types of investments on distressed property all over the world.

We commend Senator Dolan for his efforts on SB 275. At an early Interested Pary Meeting he made it clear that he wanted to address electric grid stress without using farmland and without causing cost shift between customers. SB 275 accomplishes these objectives.

Recently there was opponent testimony in this Committee regarding SB 275 and I would like to respond to that testimony.

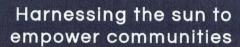
- 1. A claim was made that problems exist in the current and decades-old net metering law, independent of SB 275. Interestingly, the public utilities have not pursued any legislation to address these problems and there is no record in proceedings at the PUCO of public utilities seeking rate recovery for commercial net metering in Ohio.
- 2. No mention was made by the utilities of the BENEFITS of non-utility distributed generation ("DG"). DG is one of the few opportunities to bring significant new generation online within the next 2-3 years. The time frame for PJM project is 5+ years. DG also has the advantage of eliminating transmission costs as power produced by these systems is used by off takers on the same circuit as the generation.
- 3. SB 275 is NOT a bill that allows siting everywhere. It is very intentional in ensuring value to Ohio by siting on distressed sites. If utilities were to provide information about grid conditions, such as heat maps, competitive developers can help maximize grid benefits by siting these facilities in the most advantageous locations. It is somewhat incredulous that there was testimony that it was not worth the time and cost to create heat maps for policy makers. If OH suffers brownouts or blackouts in the 1-2 years, I think we will look back unfavorably at that testimony.
- 4. There was testimony that included a hypothetical 45 MW solar system. This size system is impossible to build under SB 275 (the maximum sized system would be 20 MW) and the assertion that corresponding demand charges would not be paid is false.
- 5. There was testimony about lost revenues and how this creates costs. They don't, and customers are not obligated to purchase as much electricity as a utility assumes it would.



Harnessing the sun to empower communities

- Utility law does not guarantee 100% collection of costs and profits. That is not the law and it has never been.
- 6. Last we are hearing that a business group may oppose SB 275 because of cost sharing. This is ironic for two reasons. One, they bought into the baseless claim about SB 275 shifting costs. To be clear, SB 275 requires participants to pay 100% of their distribution costs on energy they buy from the grid AND energy they produce from their systems. Two, several of the group's members have/are participants in electric reasonable arrangements under ORC 4905.31. These are the only companies in Ohio that receive subsidized power rates and the discount is cost shifted to the rate base of the utility.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on behalf of SB 275. I am happy to answer your questions.





States Allowing Virtual Net Metering (VNM) or Community Solar

- 1. Alaska CS
- 2. Arizona CS
- 3. California CS and VNM
- 4. Colorado CS and VNM
- 5. Connecticut CS and VNM
- 6. Delaware VNM
- 7. Hawaii CS and VNM
- 8. Illinois CS
- 9. Maine CS
- 10. Maryland CS and VNM
- 11. Massachusetts CS and VNM
- 12. Minnesota CS and VNM
- 13. New Hampshire VNM
- 14. New Jersey CS and VNM
- 15. New Mexico CS
- 16. New York CS and VNM
- 17. Oregon CS and VNM
- 18. Pennsylvania VNM
- 19. Rhode Island CS and VNM
- 20. Vermont VNM
- 21. Virginia CS and VNM
- 22. Washington CS
- 23. Washington, D.C. VNM
- 24. West Virginia (limited cases within 2 miles) VNM
- 25. Wisconsin CS



Electric Bill Total \$440.48 Components for November 2024 Based on Franklin County Sales Tax Rate 7.50% Columbus Southern Power Commercial

Customer Type

Columbus City

					Commercial
Name		% of Total Bill Schedule	Short Name	Rate	
General Se	General Service-Primary	31,44% GS-Primary	GS-Primary	138,5000000	Utility Type
Generation	Generation Energy Rider	15.40% GS-Primary	GE Rider	0.0678500	Electric
Basic Trar	Basic Transmission Cost Rider-Demand Metered Primary	15,35% GS-Primary	BTC Rider	6.7600000	
General S	General Service-Primary	14.01% GS-Primary	GS-Primary	6.1700000	
Distributio	Distribution Investment Rider	9.60% GS-Primary	DIR Rider	0.2111760	November 2024
gridSMAR	gridSMART Phase 2 Rider	3.89% GS-Primary	GSP2 Rider	17.1200000	Charge Tong
Enhanced	Enhanced Service Reliability Rider	3.04% GS-Primary	ESR Rider	0.0669857	Olarge Type
Economic	Economic Development Cost Recovery Rider	2.25% GS-Primary	EDCR Rider	0.0494232	(M)
Universal	Jniversal Service Fund Rider	1.34% GS-Primary	USF Rider	0.0059216	
Storm Dan	Storm Damage Recovery Rider	1.10% GS-Primary	SDR Rider	4.8400000	
KWH Tax Rider	Rider	1.06% GS-Primary	KWH Tax Rid.	0.0046500	Monthly Usage (kWh)
Alternative	Alternative Energy Rider-Primary	0.85% GS-Primary	AE Rider	0.0037618	1,000
Generatio	Seneration Capacity Rider-Primary Demand Metered	0.49% GS-Primary	GC Rider	0.0021400	Damand (1918)
Legacy Ge	egacy Generation Resource Rider - Part A	0.41% GS-Primary	LGR Rider A	0.0018007	Demand (KW)
Basic Tran	Basic Transmission Cost Rider-Demand Metered Primary	0.13% GS-Primary	BTC Rider	0.0005806	OT.
Solar Ger	Solar Generation Fund-Non-Residential	0.07% GS-Primary	SGF	0.0002905	Reactive Demand (kVAR)
Tax Savin	Fax Savings Credit Rider	-0.14% GS-Primary	TSCR	-0.0006200	10
Auction C	Auction Cost Reconciliation Rider-Energy Cost	-0.28% GS-Primary	ACR Rider	-0.0012408	

Mcf or Ccf Mcf Monthly Usage (Mcf or Ccf