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Mark Johnson

State Representative

Chairman Reineke, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Smith and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee. Thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 264 which would broaden the qualifications necessary for certain companies to receive renewable energy credits. As the law is currently written, companies can only qualify for renewable energy credits if the renewable energy source is used to turn a turbine or generator to generate electricity. There are a few facilities in Ohio that harness and use steam to power some of their operations, but the steam isn't used to generate electricity. What the Ohio Revised Code doesn't currently take into account, is if these facilities are still displacing carbon emissions, which is the ultimate goal of the renewable energy portfolio standard. This issue was brought to my attention by SunCoke Energy, a raw material processing and handling company, with a facility operating in Middletown, Ohio. They capture steam and transfer it to a neighbor company, which then uses the steam to power a distillation process for petrochemicals. My joint sponsor and I feel that this use of steam power should allow SunCoke, and other facilities that similarly utilize steam power, to qualify for renewable energy credits. Not allowing these companies to receive renewable energy credits is simply an oversight in the Ohio Revised Code, which House Bill 264 would correct. Thank you for the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on this bill.

Mark Johnson

Ohio House of Representatives