

Greg Coleridge
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10. December. 2024

Dear Members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee,

Unfortunately I'm unable to attend today's hearing on Ohio House Bill 308, but wish to share my concerns about the proposal to label energy generated from nuclear reactors as "green."

Simply legislatively tapping your heels and claiming that nuclear energy is "green" doesn't make it so. It's a legislative publicity stunt that is divorced from reality.

Nuclear power poses incredible dangers to Ohioans, Ohio communities and the natural world. The fact that Wall Street won't fund Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMNR) and that the Price Anderson Act limits the liability of corporations for nuclear accidents demonstrates the perils of nuclear power. If nuclear power is so "green," then why has there been such incredible resistance to from the public and leaders in states to have nuclear waste stored there.

There are opportunity costs associated with this conversion as well – meaning what is NOT possible is this legislation passes. Specifically, House Bill 308 could divert funding from legitimate and actual green renewable energy (i.e. wind and solar) sources, which are less expensive and more quickly able to be expanded. Ohio is already well behind other states in shifting energy production from fossil fuels to sources of energy production originating from the sun and wind. Energy generation from the splitting of atoms is not natural, clean or safe – besides being more expensive.

It's ironic that your hearing on Ohio House Bill 308 falls on this day. December 10 is when the Nobel Prizes are awarded. This year's recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize is Nihon Hidankyo, the grassroots movement of atomic bomb survivors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, also known as Hibakusha, for its efforts to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons. Nuclear energy was touted in the 1940's as an energy source that was safe and "too cheap to meter." It was a lie then and remains so now. Nuclear power corporations and their promoters proclaim that SMNR's are needed in part to maintain the skills needed for ongoing nuclear weapons development. Both nuclear weapons and energy are environmentally lethal and economically unaffordable.

It's time to focus on cheaper, cleaner, safer and more affordable alternatives.

Vote NO on Ohio House Bill 308.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg Coleridge". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal line extending to the right.