

Proponent Testimony by David P. Fuhry on House Bill 303
House Energy Committee
November 10, 2025

Chairman Holmes, Vice-Chair Mathews, Ranking Member Rader, and members of the House Energy Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written proponent testimony on behalf of the updated House Bill 303 (HB303). I am encouraged to see that HB 303 continues to develop with stakeholder feedback, and I continue to support it. My name is David P. Fuhry and I am a resident of Bainbridge Township and co-own a business in Huntsburg Township, both in Geauga County.

Electric rates have been increasing, putting pressure on the finances of many Ohioans. There are many causes, include growing demand, anticipated data centers, and insufficient interconnection effort from PJM. HB 303 can be part of the solution, lowering electric bills by 5% - 20% with guaranteed savings and strong consumer protections. Others have found the same: 24 states + Washington D.C. have laws that benefit community energy.

In the area of my business, in 2022 Huntsburg Township trustees signed a solar lease on 50 acres of township property. However, this lease is contingent on Ohio passing HB 303 to allow community energy projects. The project would provide up to \$60,000 of revenue to the township each year to maintain their parks and equipment, as well as provide residents with 10% off their electric bills. Both of these savings, as well as the economic activity from the construction and maintenance of the project, are much-needed and would benefit the community. In turn they would benefit my business and our 30 employees.

It is good to see that HB 303 continues to develop through the legislative process in response to feedback, and I continue to support it. Thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony on behalf of HB303.