Ohio Senate Energy Committee April 29, 2025

Senate Concurrent Resolution 2, Interested Party Written Testimony

Ohio Conservative Energy Forum

Chairman Chavez, Vice-Chair Landis, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Senate Energy Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit written interested party testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution 2. My name is Shayna Fritz, and I am the Executive Director of the Ohio Conservative Energy Forum (OHCEF). Our organization is committed to advancing market-driven energy solutions that strengthen Ohio's economy, protect landowner rights, and encourage innovation across the energy sector.

SCR 2 appropriately highlights the critical need to modernize and expand our electric transmission infrastructure. As Ohio's energy mix continues to diversify, with growing contributions from natural gas, solar, wind, hydrogen, and emerging technologies, the ability to efficiently move electricity from where it is generated to where it is needed has never been more important.

Strengthening our transmission system will enhance grid reliability, support economic development across rural and urban areas, and ensure that Ohio can fully capitalize on new energy investments. Expanding and upgrading transmission also makes it possible for Ohioans to access affordable, resilient, and domestically produced energy, regardless of the resource.

Without forward-looking investments in transmission, Ohio risks bottlenecks that could hinder both traditional and renewable energy deployment, raise costs for consumers, and weaken overall grid stability. A strong transmission backbone benefits everyone, from large manufacturers to family farms to residential consumers.

We also appreciate that SCR 2 reinforces the need for a balanced, all-of-the-above approach to energy development. Transmission investment goes hand-in-hand with fostering an environment where all energy resources can compete fairly and contribute to Ohio's prosperity.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue as we continue to look for ways that Ohio can be part of the challenge, we face to continue powering our state and nation. I am always happy to be a resource on energy issues in Ohio and can be reached at sfritz@ohcef.org or (847) 370-4505.