

## Testimony Senate Bill 294

Dear Chair Chavez, Vice Chair Landis, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the Senate Energy Committee,

My name is Ann McCabe and I am a citizen of Westerville, Ohio. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony of Senate Bill 294. I oppose SB 294 because of the environmental and economic negative impacts this bill would have on our state.

In Columbus, and in Westerville, we already face issues with air and water pollution. I have three children and want them to have a future where they do not need to worry about increased catastrophic impacts from climate change as well as poisoned air and water. Methane gas is not clean energy and should not be eligible for federal clean energy tax credits. Fracked gas is 80% more potent as carbon dioxide. It comes from the highly polluting process of fracking – including of our state parks and public lands – which converts billions of gallons of our fresh water to toxic radioactive waste each year.

Nuclear relies on constant mining and enrichment of uranium, and highly radioactive nuclear waste must be stored for eons. Small modular reactors are often touted as an alternative, but as of now, no SMR is in operation anywhere in the United States.

Solar and wind are the cheapest and most deployable form of energy on any scale. They are cheaper and quicker to build than gas and much cheaper and quicker than nuclear. Ohio is home to several major solar panel manufacturing companies, including First Solar in Perrysburg and Illuminate USA in Pataskala. Far from supporting foreign adversaries, solar energy in Ohio provides thousands of good-paying jobs.

Why are we still trying to rely on draconian, outdated, unclean sources of energy like oil and gas makes no sense whatsoever. We have the ability to look to the future and make decisions now that benefit the people and the natural resources of our state. I am tired of our legislators and regulatory bodies hampering electricity generation by impeding renewable energy. Let's think about the future, about our children, about the only planet we live on - which we are a part of and DEPEND upon - instead of solely the interests of oil and gas.

Sincerely,

Ann McCabe  
February 5, 2026