

To: Chair Chavez, Vice Chair Landis, and Ranking Member Smith.

I am writing to you to ask that you do all you can to either defeat the proposed Senate Bill 294 or alter it to make it reflect a more reasonable approach to energy policy for the State of Ohio.

The current bill seems to be of a family with Senate Bill 52, which treats renewable energy, exclusively, as something to be regulated while exempting dirtier, more expensive sources from the same rules. This is political policy, not energy policy. Ohio law is already tipped in favor of oil and gas; SB 294 would further suppress renewable energy by ignoring the reliability of battery storage. Competition should be encouraged, not distorted. All this at a time when China is installing tremendous new solar and wind capacity, driving down their cost of production and further endangering the competitiveness of America's industries.

As citizens, we wish for abundant, inexpensive, clean energy. Renewables are currently the cheapest, most environmentally-friendly sources we have. Ohio is already home to major solar manufacturing that provides thousands of good-paying jobs.

Finally, the bill seems as though it comes from a chapter of *1984*. Methane is not a "Green" solution. This is farcical; the fracking process releases methane that is 20 times more potent than CO₂ and risks contaminating our water and air.

Respectfully submitted,

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