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Chairman Chavez, Vice Chair Landis, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the Senate Energy Committee. House Bill 303 is, we believe, the most wholistic approach to addressing distributive energy connectivity in Ohio. Though many of you may recognize this pilot program from the previous General Assembly, the latest version that we are discussing today we hope will serve as a catalyst for a more robust and competitive energy market which puts the individual subscriber first and embodies Ohio's all of the above approach to increased energy supply in Ohio.

House Bill 303 broadens the scope and implementation of community energy by ensuring a more competitive energy market by leveraging free market principles and private capital investments. We believe the model created by House Bill 303 provides the entire rate base the best deal on much needed new distributed generation sources while adding reliability and resiliency to the grid.

Community Energy under this legislation is defined by a single facility which generates electricity using one or more of the following technologies, individually or in combination: solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas, hydroelectric power, microturbines, natural gas-fired generators, energy storage systems, fuel cells, and other emerging generation technologies.

This legislation also clarifies the role of the PUCO, outlining both its regulatory and review process of Community Energy Facilities (CEF) while safeguarding local control and distribution across the grid. Through their review the bill requires a report 48 months after the rules of the program take effect to determine among other variables a cost-saving impact, total subscribers, location of facilities and grid resiliency before both the House and Senate committees.

Ohio's energy deficit continues to grow Community Energy is the fastest way to bring additional power online through private investment not additional riders passed on to the consumer. Multiple smaller-sized distributed generation facilities are more secure, less vulnerable to disruption, more reliable in aggregate, easier to repair, faster to build and easier to site via local control at the municipal township and county level. We simply cannot wait any longer to add additional energy to Ohio's supply.

I want to thank this committee for all your work and deliberation on House Bill 15 which helped lay the framework for Community Energy and look forward to continuing to work with various stake holders to allow for a more robust and reliable energy distribution grid that will foster the needs of Ohio's energy customers for years to come.

Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.