

**Lear McCoy**  
J.McCoy Lumber Company  
Proponent Testimony  
Senate Bill 151  
Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee  
October 8, 2025

Chairman Wilkin, Vice-Chairman Reineke, Ranking Member DeMora and members of the Senate Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the chance to speak in support of S.B.151, which creates a voluntary program for carbon offsets to be sold together with natural gas.

My name is Lear McCoy from J. McCoy Lumber Company based in Peebles, Ohio. Our family lumber company was founded in 1978 by my father Jack McCoy. Together with my father and my brother Chad we manage the manufacturing of a wide variety of wood products. Our operation includes a logging crew, sawmills, pallet manufacturing facilities and a dimension plant.

At the heart of our business is the ten thousand acres of forestland that we own and manage across Adams County. We are a vertically integrated company that balances our production with the growth of our timberland. Selective harvesting and actively managing our forest in a sustainable way has given us the opportunity to also engage in the voluntary carbon offset market through the carbon sequestration of our forestland.

Implementing forest management practices that increase growth and forest stocking levels allowed us to enter the voluntary carbon credit market over the last few years. In other words, as we grow more wood than we harvest, carbon is sequestered and creates a measurable amount of carbon credits that are marketed through a carbon project developer.

We support Senate Bill 151, because it will create new markets for our carbon offset business and many others like it. And at the same time, we will be helping the natural gas industry. All of which lies across the Appalachian region of Ohio.

I want to thank you Chairman Wilkin for introducing this legislation, and for your leadership on this issue. I hope this Committee will pass this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I am happy to answer any questions.

