

Written testimony of Randy Cunningham of Cleveland, Ohio opposing SB 33.

Chairman Callender, Ranking Member Smith.

Ten reasons to reject Senate Bill 33 currently before the Public Utilities Committee of the Ohio House.

(1) This proposal is of, by and for the oil and gas industry in the State of Ohio.

(2) This proposal is a display of loyalty to the oil and gas industry from the majority caucus of the General Assembly.

(3) The existing laws on the books in Ohio provide all the protections needed for critical infrastructure facilities in the State of Ohio.

(4) The goal of this legislation is to intimidate those residents of Ohio who oppose the activities of the oil and gas industry from exercising their rights of dissent, protest and free speech by creating a chilling atmosphere that is in violation of past decisions of the US Supreme Court.

(5) The goal of this legislation is to not only to intimidate individuals into silence, but to inhibit and intimidate organizations from supporting those individuals.

(6) The goal of this legislation is to authorize a mop up operation by the oil and gas industry of its opponents to remove one of the last obstacles to industry's ability to skirt environmental laws, and to do what it pleases, wherever it pleases and whenever it pleases.

(7) The goal of this legislation is to unleash law enforcement and private security agencies upon the opponents of the industry.

(8) The goal of this legislation given the ever elastic definition of critical infrastructure facilities, is to spread confusion and doubt in the minds of those who would protest these facilities on when they are and are not in violation of the law – thus furthering the goal of creating a chilling atmosphere for the exercise of rights.

(9) The legislation will not work, because it does not address the reasons opponents protest the activities of the oil and gas industry in Ohio.

(10) This legislation will not work because throughout the history of the United States, laws meant to suppress dissent have failed to suppress dissent.

For these ten reasons, along with many, many more the General Assembly of the State of Ohio should reject Senate Bill 33.

Thank you.