

I am writing to urge your committee to reject HB118. This type of legislation is bad for a number of reasons.

First, with the recent bribery scandal it would not be wise to pass another bill which would raise questions about the selective nature of this particular bill. What energy providers benefit from this piece of legislation? Are we going to give townships the right to veto new gas lines, new substations, fracking projects, drilling, or any other energy project? What answer will you have as to who wins when wind and solar are the only energy projects that the township has the right to reject?

Another consideration should be the development of new higher paying jobs for Ohio. Take a look at the new high paying jobs that have gone to Colorado because of wind energy enterprises. Look at any number of other states that have benefited from the manufacture and installation of solar panels. In a state that prides itself in bringing new technology such as composite materials, robotics manufacturing, etc. along with research joint efforts such as the collaboration of the University of Dayton and General Electric, it seems strange that we continually throw up roadblocks to wind and solar projects.

Ohio needs a highly trained workforce to fill the skilled jobs our business's need. How do we acquire and retain these workers when our state has big problems with air quality and water quality? Wind and solar will not pollute our air or endanger our water quality. These are the types of energy sources we should be competing to get!

The United States is facing major problems with the potential harmful impacts of a warming and changing climate. We need to start planning for our future by looking for ways to lower our dependency on fossil fuels.

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