



House Public Utilities Committee
House Bill 118
March 23, 2021

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chairman Ray, Ranking Member Smith, and members of the House Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written opponent testimony on House Bill 118 (HB 118).

ENGIE North America, Inc. is on a mission to shape a sustainable future built on clean, affordable, resilient energy and the infrastructure that supports it. Our team of 6,500 employees are leaders in advancing the transition to a carbon-neutral North America. Along the way, we are creating jobs, economic opportunities and trusted community and customer partnerships. Through the dedication of our employees, a partnered approach with our customers, and connection with our communities, we continually work to achieve our vision to empower vibrant, sustainable businesses and communities for generations to come.

We manage the entire lifecycle of renewables projects: from development to financing, construction, procurement and operations. ENGIE North America has accelerated growth of our footprint and we are adding 2 GW of solar and wind power to our existing 1 GW portfolio in the US and Canada. We will continue to pursue our commitment to sustainable energy with the goal of doubling our grid-scale capacity again in 2021. We also have hundreds of installations of distributed renewables across North America, providing access to renewable energy locally.

ENGIE North America owns and operates multiple renewable assets throughout Ohio of varying scales and currently has plans for future development of additional renewable projects in the state. We understand that the progression towards carbon-neutrality is just as vital as cost-efficiency and reliability for our customers. Customers look to us for renewable energy solutions that create a better environment for their employees and their community. Whether it is through solar, wind, storage, or a hybrid solution that combines these renewable energy resources with a traditional resource like natural gas, we are our customers' trusted partner to help achieve their energy goals.

Our interpretation of HB 118 is that its enactment will greatly jeopardize future wind and solar investment in Ohio by circumventing longstanding regulatory and siting processes that have attracted projects to Ohio by providing certainty to developers such as ourselves. Regional competition for renewable projects has intensified as developers strive to meet the steadily increasing demand throughout PJM. This restrictive legislation will discourage developers from locating projects in Ohio, causing numerous political



subdivisions and their residents to miss out on the long-term tax revenues generated by these projects, in addition to the environmental benefits provided by the clean energy they produce.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this written testimony and welcome any follow up that members of the committee may have.