

David Gingerich – Highland County
SB 52 Proponent Testimony
House Public Utilities Committee
June 22, 2021

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Ranking Member Smith and members of the Committee. I am David Gingerich from Highland County and I urge you to move swiftly to pass SB 52.

There are numerous reasonable and logical arguments to support SB52 when weighing land use considerations. Utility-scale power generation is one land use which developers argue addresses a public benefit in the transition from fossil fuels to a carbon-free economy. But we must bear in mind that the developer requires public subsidies to realize these projects. They also seek to transfer costs to the host community in order to maximize their subsidized profits and facilitate sales to long-term owners or for virtual Power Purchase Agreements to companies like Amazon who want to look “green”.

It has been my experience in Highland County that the costs to the community have not been identified or discussed. Consequently, the mitigation of harms to a community are not explored and because the community has no voice, we have no leverage to require a developer to address them.

The OPSB, along with municipalities and renewable energy developers, have been advised to use regenerated brownfields for renewable energy use by Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Scholar PhD. Gilbert Michaud as follows:

"Land-use priorities, patterns of land reclamation, and the evolving use of agricultural lands will also be changing as we look ahead toward the future. In determining the feasibility of projects, the Board should consider requiring opportunity cost type studies to better quantitatively discern the economic impacts of shifting land uses (e.g., from agriculture to solar). Ultimately, multiple, and highest priority land uses in Ohio should be preserved, especially for farmland, and especially in the face of climate change, while providing special incentives (e.g., tax credits/exemptions) to use lower-quality lands such as brownfields or abandoned mine lands when siting new energy infrastructure. "

Without legislation such as SB 52, no community can plan for its future. A forty-year lease of land for solar generation covers nearly two generations. We cannot know what the future holds during this time but taking prime farmland out of production unquestionably will limit our community's options in dealing with that future. New discoveries in carbon sequestration through cover crops, the advance of carbon capture technologies and the like will present new opportunities. According to the US Department of Energy,

"Increasingly, however, geothermal systems where subsurface fluid and permeability are lacking are being engineered or enhanced to access the earth's heat by adding fluid to these hot subsurface resources. Known as [enhanced geothermal systems \(EGS\)](#), this technology could be a game-changer in the geothermal sector, tapping 100+ gigawatts of geothermal energy, roughly ten percent of domestic energy demand. In addition, [low-temperature and coproduced technologies](#) are being explored for near-term power solutions." <https://www.energy.gov/eere/geothermal/electricity-generation>

The U.S. Department of Energy has a goal of reaching commercial viability for geothermal power generation by 2030.

Notwithstanding technology advances, today's industrial wind and solar sectors are rushing to convince Ohioans and you, our policy makers, that they are the answer to a clean energy future. They may be a part of the answer but they are not THE answer. Moreover, giving disenfranchised communities a role in determining their future with respect to land use is seen by the renewables lobby as nothing more than an unwanted speed bump in their road to riches.

Ohio needs a thoughtful energy policy but we also need thoughtful policies that protect our water resources, biodiversity and our agriculture. Acreage used to produce products from corn and soybeans is in high demand. Many producers have to compete to lease land to make their operations sustainable. The extensive amount of acreage being taken out of crop production for renewable energy sprawl could have devastating effects on prices of commodities and products if it continues at this accelerated rate. Products that are produced by corn and soybeans are almost innumerable. *

A community that may place a higher value on agricultural production doesn't stand a chance against utility solar under the current Ohio Power Siting Board approval process.

Prime agricultural land is essential and critical to sustain life and has been so through time. We cannot sacrifice the most essential assets of land and water to put excess and unnecessary electricity into the grid to satisfy businesses such as Amazon whose owner along with Warren Buffet and Bill Gates are investing in the development of nuclear power. These billionaires know that energy needs cannot be met with solar because of the limitations of the manufacturing of batteries.

SB 52 is a good start in a process that balances community land use priorities and recognizes the long-term costs to Ohio's greatest natural resources. In forty years we do not want to look back and find that we thoughtlessly destroyed our land, fragmented our communities, and polluted our waters. It is not out of the realm of possibility that on-shore wind and solar power plants will be obsolete in twenty years and will be replaced with next generation nuclear power plants that produce clean energy twenty four hours a day and require a smaller footprint that will allow Ohio to retain the valuable asset of prime agricultural land.

I urge you to move forward as soon as possible to vote in favor of SB 52.

*The following list of corn products derivatives can be found in common food products and food additives and is not exhaustive. Some products may not always be made from corn, but all products can be made from corn, or may contain corn as an ingredient. For example, dextrose, a corn derivative, is sometimes used as an anti-clumping agent in iodized salt. Pre-packaged, grated cheese often uses a form of cornstarch or cellulose to prevent caking. Also, be aware of corn derivatives used in medicines like aspirin and cough syrup.

- Acetic acid
- Alcohol
- Alpha tocopherol
- Artificial flavorings
- Artificial sweeteners
- Ascorbates
- Ascorbic acid
- Aspartame
- Astaxanthin
- Baking powder
- Bleached flour
- Blended sugar (sugar dextrose)
- Calcium citrate
- Calcium fumarate
- Calcium gluconate
- Calcium lactate
- Calcium magnesium acetate (CMA)
- Calcium stearate
- Calcium stearoyl lactylate
- Caramel and caramel color
- Carboxymethylcellulose sodium
- Cellulose microcrystalline
- Cellulose, methyl
- Cellulose, powdered
- Cetearyl glucoside
- Choline chloride
- Citric acid
- Citrus cloud emulsion (CCS)
- Coco glycerides (cocoglycerides)
- Confectioners sugar
- Croscarmellose sodium
- Crystalline dextrose
- Crystalline fructose
- Cyclodextrin
- DATUM (a dough conditioner)
- Decyl glucoside
- Decyl polyglucose
- Dextrin
- Dextrose (also found in IV solutions)
- Dextrose anything (such as monohydrate or anhydrous) d-Gluconic acid
- Distilled white vinegar
- Drying agent
- Erythorbic acid

- Erythritol
- Ethanol
- Ethocel 20
- Ethylcellulose
- Ethylene
- Ethyl acetate
- Ethyl alcohol
- Ethyl lactate
- Ethyl maltol
- Fibersol-2
- Flavorings
- Food starch
- Fructose
- Fruit juice concentrate
- Fumaric acid
- Germ/germ meal
- Gluconate
- Gluconic acid
- Glucono delta-lactone
- Gluconolactone
- Glucosamine
- Glucose
- Glucose syrup (also found in IV solutions)

Glutamate

- Gluten
 - Glycerides
 - Glycerin
 - Glycerol
 - Golden syrup
 - High fructose corn syrup
 - Honey (Corn may extend its reach to honey either directly by being added to the end result, as an unlabeled ingredient in the form of HFCS, or because HFCS is sometimes fed directly to honey bees.)
 - Hydrolyzed corn
 - Hydrolyzed corn protein
 - Hydrolyzed vegetable protein
 - Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose
 - Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate (HPMCP)
- #### Inositol
- Invert syrup or sugar
 - Iodized salt
 - Lactate

- Lactic acid
- Lauryl glucoside
- Lecithin
- Linoleic acid
- Lysine
- Magnesium citrate
- Magnesium fumarate
- Magnesium stearate
- Maize
- Malic acid
- Malonic acid
- Malt syrup from corn
- Malt, malt extract
- Maltitol
- Maltodextrin
- Maltol
- Maltose
- Mannitol
- Methyl gluceth
- Methyl glucose
- Methyl glucoside
- Methylcellulose
- Microcrystalline cellulose
- Modified cellulose gum
- Modified food starch
- Molasses (corn syrup may be present; know your product)
- Mono- and di- glycerides
- Monosodium glutamate
- MSG
- Natural flavorings
- Olestra/Olean
- Polenta
- Polydextrose
- Polylactic acid (PLA)
- Polysorbates (e.g. Polysorbate 80)
- Polyvinyl acetate
- Potassium citrate
- Potassium fumarate
- Potassium gluconate
- Powdered sugar
- Pregelatinized starch
- Propionic acid
- Propylene glycol

- Propylene glycol monostearate
- Saccharin
- Salt (iodized salt)
- Semolina (unless from wheat)
- Simethicone
- Sodium carboxymethylcellulose
- Sodium citrate
- Sodium erythorbate
- Sodium fumarate
- Sodium lactate
- Sodium starch glycolate
- Sodium stearoyl fumarate
- Sorbate
- Sorbic acid
- Sorbitan
- Sorbitol
- Splenda
- Starch (any kind that is not specified)
- Stearic acid
- Stearoyls
- Sucralose
- Sucrose
- Sugar (not identified as cane or beet)
- Sweet'N Low
- Threonine
- Tocopherol (vitamin E)
- Treacle (aka golden syrup)
- Triethyl citrate
- Unmodified starch
- Vanilla, natural flavoring
- Vanilla, pure or extract
- Vanillin
- Vegetable anything that's not specific
- Vinegar, distilled white
- Vinyl acetate
- Vitamin C and Vitamin E
- Vitamins
- Xanthan gum
- Xylitol
- Yeast
- Zea mays
- Zein (used in time-release medication)

USDA projects United States will need an additional fourteen million acres for Soybean Production by 2030 : <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/USDA-Agricultural-Projections-to-2030.pdf>

Corn Products :

<https://www.responsibletechnology.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Corn-Products-Derivatives-06-06-17.pdf>

Corn Products : <http://www.livecornfree.com/2010/04/ingredientsderived-from-corn-what-to.htm>

Dairy Products : <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/dairy-data>

Soybeans Products: <https://soynewuses.org/products/>

Gilbert Michaud : https://puco.ohio.gov/static/OPSB/2020_rules/Ohio+University.pdf

Corn Starch Use increase :

[https://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/5214497/global-corn-starch-market-by-form-liquid-and?utm_source=Ci&utm_medium=PressRelease&utm_code=nknmfq&utm_campaign=1478332+-+Global+Corn+Starch+Market+\(2020+to+2026\)+-+by+Form%2c+Type%2c+Application+and+Region&utm_exec=jamu273prd](https://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/5214497/global-corn-starch-market-by-form-liquid-and?utm_source=Ci&utm_medium=PressRelease&utm_code=nknmfq&utm_campaign=1478332+-+Global+Corn+Starch+Market+(2020+to+2026)+-+by+Form%2c+Type%2c+Application+and+Region&utm_exec=jamu273prd)

Buffet and Gates nuclear :

<https://www.businessinsider.com/bill-gates-warren-buffett-nuclear-reactor-wyoming-terrapower-pacific-orp-2021-6?op=1>

Bezos nuclear :

https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-06-16/bezos-backed-fusion-startup-picks-u-k-to-build-first-plant?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=socialflow-organic&utm_content=business&cmpid=socialflow-facebook-business

Attachments area

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: June 19 2021

Name: Dave Gingerich

Are you representing: Yourself Organization

Organization (If Applicable): _____

Position/Title: _____

Address: 5071 Kibler Rd.

City: Lynchburg State: Ohio Zip: 45142

Best Contact Telephone: 5133302215 Email: _____

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes No

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): SB52

Specific Issue: Renewable energy

Are you testifying as a: Proponent Opponent Interested Party

Will you have a written statement, visual aids, or other material to distribute? Yes No

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

Will your testimony be written, spoken, or both? written

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I support SB52

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.