

PROPONENT TESTIMONY

SB 52

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June 22, 2021

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Ranking Member Smith and members of the Committee,

As an Ohio resident my husband and I are in support of the revised SB52. As a physicist I think future generations will look back on this time and our discussion and love of renewable energy and think we did it all wrong. We ruined countless acres of good farm ground for what? A very energy light, unreliable, resource heavy, waste creating form of carbon free energy. When we have the technology to be carbon free and create a lot less waste. It is called Nuclear and it is carbon free, footprint light (does not swallow millions of acres) and creates a lot less waste. If all of my "energy" waste for my lifetime were collected and it all came from Nuclear power generation it would be the size of a 1980's rubrics cube. That is not a lot of waste. But from wind and solar the waste would be a huge pile of panels and blades. Which do you think is better for the environment?

Most developing nations go from energy light sources of energy-to-energy dense sources of energy and we are discussing in Ohio the lightest and least dense source of energy available. Solar and wind cover too many acres and currently the local governments of Ohio have NO way of saying we don't want this type of industrial energy generation on the land. And local governments should have a say when we are talking about the size and scope of these industrial power projects.

What is the difference between solar/wind and nuclear/natural gas? The footprint of industrial solar/wind power plants on land use impacts the local communities at a rate not seen by other forms of energy. Ohio needs to make sure our rural communities are not left with the risk of solar/wind. Huge swatches of land are needed for very little energy production in the case of wind and solar. Locals should have a say when we are talking about the size of projects needed for the intermittent energy that is produced from wind and solar.

Remember that wind and solar do not produce energy on demand (intermittent) like nuclear and natural gas (base load). Because of this wind and solar power plants need natural gas power plant backups which also increases electricity rates to Ohioans. This is not fair to the consumer – energy prices for natural gas go down but the consumer has to pay more because of the wind and solar plant. That is not a win for the Ohioan!!! We have natural experiments of this phenomenon already in which to compare. Look at California and the rates that they pay for electricity compared to the rest of the country. Also, you can compare France vs. Germany electricity rates. France is carbon free emissions and is almost 100% nuclear power vs. Germany which went with renewables and is only about 50% carbon free (because of those backup power facilities) and pays almost twice as much for electricity as France.

This legislation is about giving the county/township the ability which is the only right thing to do since Industrial Scale Solar/Wind Power Plants transform a huge footprint and communities in a monumental way.

This bill provides a fair process for renewable energy to identify parts of Ohio who are willing to welcome such investment. Residents and businesses, other than wind/solar in this case, have had to comply with local zoning. This creates an unfair advantage for wind/solar that will consume thousands of acres of land, create minimal full time employment opportunities for local residents, while enjoying large tax credits.

Townships and Residents in Ohio should be able to plan for their future based on knowing township land use policies without the fear of wind/solar industrial plants negating everything they worked hard to achieve. For example, in my township, Shawnee township we have a land use plan and zones set aside for such industrial

development. The Birch Solar project because it is under the guise of energy generation is negating that whole plan. This is a problem with the law that you as legislators are tasked to solve and should solve.

Please do the right thing. I humbly request the efficient passage of this legislation and thank you for your time.

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