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Reggie Stoltzfus
State Representative
50th Ohio House District
House Public Utilities Committee: HB 351

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify as a sponsor of House Bill 351.

This legislation will repeal the \$700 million in subsidies currently going to the OVEC coal plants in Ohio and Indiana as provided in H.B. 6 from the 133rd General Assembly.

HB 351 legislation seeks to achieve the following:

Repeal, and expressly terminate, the non-bypassable rate mechanism applied to all Ohio ratepayers associated with contractual commitments related to a legacy generation resource established by H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly.

Expressly prohibit any mechanism for retail recovery of costs for all specified generating facilities (the same as those defined as LGRs in H.B. 6) that was in effect on or before the effective date of H.B. 6 from being “revived, reimposed, reestablished, or in any way reinstated” as a result of the bill, or by PUCO order, decision, or rule.

Require that the full amount of revenues collected from customers under the LGR/OVEC provisions under H.B. 6 are promptly refunded to customers

As we all know, HB 6 is at the center of the largest corruption scandal in Ohio history. This warrants the piece by piece dismantling of the bill in order to restore the public’s trust. Any specific provisions that may have merit on their own should be revisited as stand-alone bills. HB 6 codified the OVEC riders, which benefit a plant that isn’t even in Ohio. This in and of itself makes it clear to me that these provisions of HB 6 need to be removed.

Chairman Hoops, Vice Chair Ray, Ranking Member Smith, and Members of the House Public Utilities Committee. Thanks again for the opportunity to testify as a sponsor of House Bill 351. I’d be happy to answer any questions you have.