

I'm writing to urge your committee to reject SB 52. This 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 bill. What energy providers benefit from this piece of legislation? Would we then, in an effort to be fair, give townships the right to veto new or existing gas lines, substations, fracking projects, drilling or any other energy project? What answer will you give when wind and solar are the only energy projects that townships have the right to veto?

Another consideration should be the development of new higher paying jobs for Ohio that wind and solar bring. Take a look at the new high paying jobs that have gone to Colorado due to wind energy enterprises. Look at the number of states that have benefitted 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 between the University of Dayton and General Electric, it seems strange that with this forward looking approach we continually throw up roadblocks at wind and solar projects.

Ohio needs a highly trained workforce to fill the skilled and technical jobs Ohio businesses have. How do we attract and retain these people who have the skill sets to live anywhere in U.S. with our polluted metro air and our water quality problems?

We need these renewable energy companies to improve the quality and health of our citizens. We also need them to help with the growing threats of climate change. We need to start looking for ways to reduce our use of fossil fuels while providing safe alternatives.

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