

Dear Senator Peterson,

The repeal of HB6 is incomplete without a full repeal of the bailout for the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation (OVEC) coal plants--Kyger Creek in Ohio and Clifty Creek in Indiana.

HB6 extended the unprofitable, unnecessary, outdated OVEC coal plant bailouts to 2030. These plants have lost money every year and are a financial drain and environmental burden on Ohioans. HB6 expanded the bailout of the OVEC coal plants to force FirstEnergy customers to pay for the bailout starting in 2020. All the money collected from FirstEnergy customers is handed over to AEP, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light to further subsidize the bailouts for those companies.

HB6 also limited PUCO's ability to protect customers from the OVEC bailout by allowing AEP, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light to recover all "prudent" costs without defining what costs are "prudent."

Was HB6 conservative legislation? Despite overwhelming support from self-described conservative Ohio legislators, it was not. Propping up unprofitable companies with Ohio citizen dollars is not ideologically conservative. Citizen choice is, as are local solutions.

I live in Warren County, one of the most reliably conservative in the state. I own a 25kW solar array that powers my home. My conservative neighbors told me how much they love the idea of being energy independent – generating power here rather than paying people far away. They will put their own arrays up in the coming years.

SB117 does the same thing for Ohioans. It stops the subsidization of outside companies at the expense of Ohio citizens and creates the opportunity for Ohioans to transition to local power generation such as solar and wind. This is true to traditional conservative principles – relying on local solutions to provide for local needs.

SB117 must be passed so the PUCO will regain its authority to protect customers from the continued excessive OVEC bailout costs, and so the OVEC owners - AEP, Duke, DP&L - can take responsibility for power plants that do not benefit Ohioans.

SB117 must be passed so FirstEnergy customers will no longer be on the hook for the OVEC plants, a cost they weren't paying before HB6 was signed into law.

SB117 must be passed to limit utility influence and money they collect from Ohioans that flows into our legislature to pass legislation that is not beneficial to Ohioans. The OVEC bailout in HB6 was a handout to AEP, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light to gain support for HB6, which we now know was wrapped up in corruption.

End the corrupt embarrassment of HB6. Advance and pass SB117.

Sincerely,

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