

Ohioans have paid 112 million dollars toward the coal plants since Jan 2020. From 2012-2019 we paid 159 million dollars in subsidies. Ohioans are expected to pay up to \$1.50 per month (\$1500 for commercial and industrial ratepayers) until the end of 2030. The Ohio Manufacturers Association calculates 700 million dollars coming from our pockets and going to these utilities who own the OVEC plants until the end of 2030.

I strongly urge you to support SB117. As an Ohioan, I should not be paying more each month to bail out two dirty, inefficient, expensive 1950s coal plants through the end of the decade. I personally cannot afford to pay one penny more in utility bills than necessary and especially not for one in Indiana. That is unconscionable to me. These plants should be retired, not bailed out. SB117 is the first step in that process.

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. Before the passage of HB6, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) had already approved bailouts for AEP, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light's shares of the OVEC coal plants through the mid 2020s with an argument that the plants could be profitable if power prices were to increase significantly. Instead, the plants have lost money every single year and been a financial drain and environmental burden on Ohioans.

HB6 expanded the bailout of the OVEC coal plants to require 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."

In late 2020, the OVEC plants filed with USEPA that each plant will comply with new environmental protections rather than retire. These new capital investments will mean new debt and costs for Ohioans.

SB117 is the solution:

Ohioans should not be on the hook for AEP, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light's bad bet on the OVEC plants.

Ohioans shouldn't be paying more each month to bail out two dirty, inefficient, expensive 1950s coal plants for the next decade. These plants should be retired, not bailed out. SB117 is the first step in that process.

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 the power plants that they own and 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--money collected from customers--in the legislature. The OVEC bailout in HB6 was a handout to AEP, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light to get their support for the corrupt HB6. Ohioans should dictate what goes into legislation, not big companies like AEP, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light.

Putting people over profit is the right and just course of action. By supporting SB117 you are demonstrating your commitment to do so.

Thank you,

Tawnya Rae Neal APRN

Lima Ohio