

Chairman McColley, Vice-Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams and the rest of the Senate Energy Committee Members,

My name is John Dignan and I'm a resident of Van Wert County, Jennings Township, Ohio. I'm writing in support of Senate bill 52. I feel SB52 provides fairness and stability to both the energy developers and the residents affected by the installation of large energy projects.

Energy Project Developers invest tens of thousands of dollars pursuing land leases, designing and promoting their projects while once the plan is presented publicly the locally affected population builds opposition that in many cases causes long term friendships and community unity to crumble. SB52 allows the community to decide how to grow over time much as zoning is controlled in metropolitan areas.

Some areas welcome these large projects as they do help fund schools, fire departments and other public support. Landowners, many that do not reside in the affected area or even in the state of Ohio, benefit financially in many cases. To me and many of my neighbors the added benefit is not worth the damage done to our living environment and the nature our community supports. However, if the local residents choose to agree to development and I am in the minority, I will accept that as the will of my community.

As you make your decisions related to these issues, I ask that you imagine these massive facilities at your back door. Our home is our life where we've created an environment to respect nature and raise our families over our lifetime. Projects being proposed all across Ohio are threatening the quality of life we feel we deserve. Negative impact studies on nearby residents prove that we should all have a say in the land use plan of our community.

In closing I ask that you please support SB52 and provide the proper balance needed by our community and the needs of the developers.

Respectfully,

John C. Dignan

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