



Statewide Contact Information: P.O. Box 521 • Granville, Ohio 43023 • 614-902-2465 • www.GreenEnergyOhio.org

Ohio Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee
Written Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 307
Green Energy Ohio
Jane Harf
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Chair McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams, and Members of the Energy and Public Utilities Committee, my name is Jane Harf and I am the Executive Director of Green Energy Ohio (GEO). Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments as a proponent of Senate Bill 307.

Green Energy Ohio (GEO) is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting sustainable energy policies, technologies, and practices through education, outreach, and advocacy. GEO has been an active participant in the Ohio energy arena for over twenty years, representing a diverse constituency of individuals, businesses, community and government entities, and academic institutions who share our mission.

In June of last year, GEO embarked on a week-long statewide Electric Vehicle Tour with several goals, including the promotion of Ohio business and industry partners engaged in clean transportation, support for career pathways in this emerging sector, and expansion of critical infrastructure. We traveled over 875 miles, visited 25 locations, and interacted with over 550 Ohioans. The enthusiasm for this technology was evident and, just as evident, was the state's ability to embrace clean transportation at this critical point in its development.

- Ohio's strong manufacturing base and skilled workforce are well suited for the transition. In Southwest Ohio, the GEO Tour highlighted workforce training with a visit to Sinclair College's Tesla training center - one of eight nationwide and the only one in the Midwest.
- A critical piece of any manufacturing sector is the supply chain. A prime example is the development and manufacture of safe and efficient battery technology. In Warren, the GEO Tour heard from executives at Ultium Cells LLC during a panel discussion held at Brite Energy Innovators.
- Demand for EVs goes beyond private cars to corporate and commercial fleets, public transportation, and even municipal government. The Tour stopped in Logan, where the Logan Police Department shared the decision to supplement their fleet with electric vehicles.
- One of the Tour's statewide sponsors was Electrada, a company launched in Cincinnati in 2020, and whose charging infrastructure was on display at the Cincinnati Zoo location.

These are just a few examples of Ohio's readiness to contribute to the clean transportation industry and, even more importantly, to benefit economically from it. Thank you for consideration of Green Energy Ohio's testimony in support of SB 307 - the Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry proposal.