



## **Proponent Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 307, Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry**

April 5, 2022

Chair McColley, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams, and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee,

Nuvve appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill (SB) 307—Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry.

Nuvve is a global leader in smart charging and vehicle-to-grid technology (V2G). Nuvve's V2G platform allows electric vehicles (EVs) to store and discharge energy while prioritizing charging needed for driving duties. Nuvve combines the V2G control and aggregation technology with an ecosystem of electrification partners to dynamically manage power among electric EV batteries and the grid to deliver new value to EV owners and accelerate the adoption of EVs.

Every major U.S. automobile manufacturer has committed to transitioning its design and production capacity over the coming decades to deliver world-class EVs to the car-buying public. The public announcements about this transition are being matched with billions of dollars in new investments. The passage of Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry bill will establish the groundwork to assure that Ohio maintains its critical role in the automobile supply chain supporting good-paying jobs as the transition to EVs accelerates in the coming years.

Nuvve is currently focused on the school bus market offering a turnkey school bus electrification service to school districts through its joint venture Levo Mobility with Stonepeak Partners. Levo provides turnkey support including site planning, construction services, deployment of V2G-enabled EVs and associated charging infrastructure, as well as maintenance and V2G energy management services to seamlessly transition a customer's fleet to electric while lowering the total cost of EV operation.

The research is irrefutable, electric school buses provide direct health benefits to students by avoiding exposure to diesel emissions.<sup>1</sup> In addition, an electric school bus is less expensive to operate and maintain over the life of the vehicle than a comparable diesel-powered bus.<sup>2</sup> Nuvve sees a significant opportunity to work with Ohio school districts to help electrify the estimated 40,000+ school buses that

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<sup>1</sup> See The American Lung Association, The Electric School Bus Solution, available at <https://www.lung.org/policy-advocacy/healthy-air-campaign/electric-school-bus-solution>.

<sup>2</sup> See American Public Power Association, Electric buses for mass transit seen as cost effective, available at <https://www.publicpower.org/periodical/article/electric-buses-mass-transit-seen-cost-effective>.

transport millions of students to and from school daily. Electrification of Ohio's school bus fleet will require millions of dollars in new investment in the state to build out the charging infrastructure.

Nuvve was pleased to see an emphasis on workforce development in SB 307. We see a shortage of trained technicians in other regions where we operate, which can lead to significant project delays. With a trained workforce to install and maintain EV chargers, Nuvve would prioritize Ohio as a place to expand operations by making the necessary investments. Furthermore, Levo has access to \$750M+ in investment capital to finance fleet electrification. With an EV-friendly environment, Ohio would be a target for Levo to deploy capital helping school districts and other fleet operators meet their electrification goals. Nuvve's and Levo's investments in Ohio could support hundreds of jobs in the burgeoning transportation electrification industry.

Nuvve is also excited about the opportunity to deploy V2G technology in Ohio. The charging infrastructure that Nuvve develops allows EVs to deliver energy back to the grid while maintaining the charge necessary to meet transportation needs. V2G systems deployed at scale can help create a more reliable and low-cost electric system saving customers money on their energy bills. Electric school buses are well suited for V2G given that they have large batteries and are idle for over 90 percent of the hours in a year including long stretches during the summer break.<sup>3</sup>

The Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry bill contains the essential elements to both expand the manufacturing of EV components in Ohio and spur EV adoption. Nuvve strongly urges the Ohio legislature to pass this innovative legislation to solidify Ohio's critical role in the U.S. automobile industry for generations to come.

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<sup>3</sup> See U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, What If Electric School Buses Could be Used to Supply Power When Off Duty?, available at <https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/what-if-electric-school-buses-could-be-used-supply-power-when-duty>.