

**Testimony of Philip J. Rudolph Jr**  
**Vice President of Business Development, Rudolph Libbe Group**

**Before the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee**  
**Hearing on Ohio Senate Bill 128: Zero-Emissions Nuclear Resource Program (ZEN)**  
**June 8, 2017**

Chairman Beagle, Vice Chair LaRose, and members of the Ohio Senate Public Utilities Committee, I'm Philip Rudolph Jr., Vice President of Business Development for the Rudolph Libbe Group. On behalf of our dedicated employees, I appreciate the opportunity to express my strong support for Senate Bill 128, which would establish a Zero-Emissions Nuclear Resource Program in Ohio. This legislation will help preserve Ohio's two nuclear plants by ensuring they are fairly compensated for the clean, secure and reliable electricity they provide to families and businesses in our state.

The Rudolph Libbe Group is one of the nation's largest providers of construction, maintenance and facility-related services for commercial and industrial customers, and is consistently ranked as one of the top building contractors in the U.S. We also offer a broad range of energy generation and optimization capabilities as well as property development, management and site selection services. We have offices located throughout Ohio, including our Northwest Ohio headquarters in Walbridge that's less than 20 miles from the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant.

The Davis-Besse plant generates enormous economic benefits for our region – our company included. It symbolizes the type of facilities that give Ohio its mighty reputation as an industrial powerhouse, providing work for hundreds of contractors and other local businesses. Over the years, Rudolph Libbe has managed numerous construction projects at the plant, including the construction of a back-up feedwater system, concrete foundation work, industrial piping systems and other mechanical and electrical construction projects. During a typical refueling outage at the plant, it's not uncommon for our company to have several hundred workers on-site, hard at work on a variety of projects.

This valuable work at Davis-Besse underscores the tremendous economic benefits of Ohio's nuclear plants that are detailed in a new report published by The Brattle Group. According to that report, Ohio's two nuclear plants – Davis-Besse and Perry – add more than a half-billion dollars to the state's gross domestic product and contribute \$23 million in state and local tax revenues annually. The two plants also account for nearly 4,300 in-state direct and secondary jobs.

The report also shows the two nuclear plants help keep power prices low for Ohioans, who would pay \$1.3 billion more for electricity over the next ten years if these two plants were to close. They also help our state achieve environmental goals by avoiding significant amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and other air pollutants annually.

Due to the grim economic and environmental consequences of closing nuclear power plants, some states have implemented and others are considering actions that value their nuclear power resources. As you may know, New York and Illinois have enacted state programs that resulted in the continued operation of five nuclear plants, and other states are discussing similar legislation that considers the environmental, economic and other benefits that nuclear resources provide to their own states. These are significant benefits that should be made available to Ohioans just as lawmakers in New York and Illinois did for their constituents.

On behalf of my company, I strongly encourage the Senate to pass this bill and help preserve these valuable energy resources in our state. I'm happy to answer any questions you have at this time.