Akshai Singh Cleveland Heights

Ohioans deserve an immediate repeal to HB 6. I testified against HB 6 in May of 2019 to Chairman Nino Vitale, who has since shown Ohio's public that he is unfit to hold office. Vitale has shown utter contempt for those who have or do face their electricity shut offs, and oversaw hearings on massive public policy entirely bereft of either financial or scientific basis. All of corruption in plain sight has come to a head this past July in the indictment of Speaker Householder.

I live in FirstEnergy territory. Since the passage of SB 221 in 2008, FirstEnergy has been categorically against the expansion of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and demand response- the cheapest energy available in PJM's capacity markets. FirstEnergy's reliance on giant baseload capacity in nuclear and coal has sunk the company in the era of Ohio's wild-west natural gas extraction, and they take out their failures on their ratepayers and Ohio's clean energy sector. FirstEnergy was caught overcharging 10-15x market rate for renewables acquisitions for their ratepayers. They have been let off the hook for repaying those charges by the Ohio Supreme Court judges who collect tens of thousands in political contributions to them.

Just a year after this favorable ruling, FirstEnergy leveraged their massive political contributions, legal and illegal, to finally deal the fatal blow to the Energy Efficiency and Renewables Standards. The EERS saved over \$5 billion in utility bills according to the Ohio Consumers' Counsel and PJM Interconnection, and reported by utilities themselves to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Ohioans should not hand over a dime to FirstEnergy without full and unfettered access to their full financial transparency handed over to the State of Ohio, a full guarantee of employment for all workers at current and vulnerable plants, a complete moratorium on utility shut-offs for residents during covid, bill forgiveness for low-income families, and multiple years of full compliance with renewed and aggressively enhanced efficiency and renewable standards, sufficient to decarbonize Ohio's economy by 2030. Anything less would be a waste of Ohioans' precious resources and time- time that is running out to prevent catastrophic climate change that is sewing destruction- Now- across the globe.

FirstEnergy must be held accountable for their racketeering schemes, which are only one instance of their massively anti-democratic political agenda that we saw in limiting HB 6 being put up for a statewide referendum vote. Indeed, FirstEnergy reaps massive returns-on-investment on the political assets they procure, versus making any in the actual energy sector.

Ohio families and workers require relief and support during these harrowing times. The pandemic has claimed over 5,000 Ohioans this year. We cannot accept anything less than repeal of HB 6, and a bill that renews and aggressively enhances our Ohio's clean energy standards-underwriting good union employment and community resilience from community reinvestment.