

**Substitute House Bill 317
On Behalf of the Ohio Energy Group
Before the House Public Utilities Committee**

November 15, 2022

Chairman Hoops, Ranking Member Smith, Vice Chair Ray, and fellow distinguished Members of the House Public Utilities Committee, please accept this written proponent testimony in support of Sub. H.B. 317.

OEG is a trade organization formed in 2003 by large energy-intensive industrial companies with one or more plants in Ohio to promote low-cost, reliable electric power. Our 28 members¹ spend more than \$1 billion annually on gas and electricity and we provide more than 55,000 good paying direct jobs in Ohio.

OEG is appreciative of the work of the bill sponsor and the members of this committee to repeal the existing Electric Security Plan (ESP) statute and replace it with a modernized ratemaking process that is fair to both customers and the investor-owned electric utilities. For OEG member companies, energy represents one of the largest costs in their manufacturing processes. We also view the utilities as suppliers of an essential service, therefore it is important that energy policy be balanced with respect to all parties. OEG supports Sub. H.B. 317 because the legislation achieves the desired balance in both protecting customers and providing a

¹ Current OEG membership: Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Amsted Rail Company, Inc., ArcelorMittal, Cargill, Incorporated, Charter Steel, Cleveland-Cliffs Steel Corporation (fka AK Steel Corporation), Cleveland-Cliffs Steel LLC (fka ArcelorMittal USA), Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc. (IronWorks), Ford Motor Company, GE Aviation, General Motors LLC, Greif, Inc., Howmet Aerospace Inc., Johns Manville, JSW Steel USA, Inc., Martin Marietta Magnesia Specialties, LLC, Materion Corporation, Messer LLC, Molson Coors Beverage Company, Nature Fresh Farms USA LLC, North Star BlueScope Steel, LLC, POET Biorefining, Linde Inc. (fka Praxair), PTC Alliance Holding Corporation, Stellantis (fka Fiat Chrysler), Three Rivers Energy LLC, TimkenSteel Corporation and Worthington Industries.

Ohio Energy Group

– Turning Energy Into Jobs –

reasonable framework for which utilities to continue investing to keep the grid safe, reliable, and secure.

OEG urges the Committee's full consideration and support for Sub. H.B. 317. Thank you.