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SB 89 Sponsor Testimony Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee May 12, 2021

Chairman Peterson, Vice Chair Schuring, Ranking Member Williams and members of the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee. Thank you for allowing me to give sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 89. Senate Bill 89 includes two provisions that aim to promote an all the above energy policy in Ohio.

The first provision extends the payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) for qualified renewable energy projects to 2030. Under current law, projects must qualify for use of PILOT before January 1, 2023. For reference, a PILOT allows energy developers to remit a fixed amount annually per megawatt payment to the county instead of real and personal property tax. The provision allowing a county to decide whether or not to offer PILOTs on a project-by-project basis maintained in the bill.

The second provision in SB 89 extends the 8.5% renewable portfolio standards (RPS) in evergreen instead of the current 2026 deadline. Additionally, the pre-HB 6 law requiring a solar carve out within the RPS is reinstated. The solar requirement starts at 0.22% in 2021 with annual increases to reach 0.5% of solar energy requirement in 2026 and each year after. The undercompliance and/or noncompliance payment for the solar carve out is also reinstated for 2021 and 2022 at \$150 per megawatt hour and decreases by \$50 every two years thereafter through 2026.

Thank you, Chairman Peterson, for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony today on SB 89. I welcome any questions from the committee.