### As Introduced

**135th General Assembly** 

# Regular Session 2023-2024

H. B. No. 308

**Representatives Stein, Brennan** 

Cosponsors: Representatives Gross, Lipps, King, Demetriou, Bird, Holmes, Denson, Seitz, Hoops, Klopfenstein, Abdullahi, Ray, Claggett, Hillyer, Dean, Robb Blasdel, Troy, Fowler Arthur, Dobos, Forhan, Weinstein, Brewer, McClain, Thomas, J., Johnson, Williams, Richardson, Carruthers, Click, Isaacsohn, Swearingen

## A BILL

To amend section 4928.01 of the Revised Code to	1
include energy generated by nuclear reaction as	2
green energy.	3

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

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scheduling; system black start capability; and network stability 17 service. 18 (2) "Billing and collection agent" means a fully 19 independent agent, not affiliated with or otherwise controlled 20 by an electric utility, electric services company, electric 21 cooperative, or governmental aggregator subject to certification 22 under section 4928.08 of the Revised Code, to the extent that 23 the agent is under contract with such utility, company, 24 cooperative, or aggregator solely to provide billing and 25 collection for retail electric service on behalf of the utility 26 company, cooperative, or aggregator. 27 (3) "Certified territory" means the certified territory 28 established for an electric supplier under sections 4933.81 to 29 4933.90 of the Revised Code. 30

(4) "Competitive retail electric service" means a
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component of retail electric service that is competitive as
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provided under division (B) of this section.
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(5) "Electric cooperative" means a not-for-profit electric light company that both is or has been financed in whole or in part under the "Rural Electrification Act of 1936," 49 Stat. 1363, 7 U.S.C. 901, and owns or operates facilities in this state to generate, transmit, or distribute electricity, or a not-for-profit successor of such company.

(6) "Electric distribution utility" means an electric40utility that supplies at least retail electric distribution41service.42

(7) "Electric light company" has the same meaning as in
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section 4905.03 of the Revised Code and includes an electric
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services company, but excludes any self-generator to the extent
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that it consumes electricity it so produces, sells that46electricity for resale, or obtains electricity from a generating47facility it hosts on its premises.48

(8) "Electric load center" has the same meaning as in49section 4933.81 of the Revised Code.50

(9) "Electric services company" means an electric light 51 company that is engaged on a for-profit or not-for-profit basis 52 in the business of supplying or arranging for the supply of only 53 a competitive retail electric service in this state. "Electric 54 services company" includes a power marketer, power broker, 55 aggregator, or independent power producer but excludes an 56 electric cooperative, municipal electric utility, governmental 57 aggregator, or billing and collection agent. 58

(10) "Electric supplier" has the same meaning as insection 4933.81 of the Revised Code.60

(11) "Electric utility" means an electric light company
that has a certified territory and is engaged on a for-profit
basis either in the business of supplying a noncompetitive
retail electric service in this state or in the businesses of
supplying both a noncompetitive and a competitive retail
electric service in this state. "Electric utility" excludes a
municipal electric utility or a billing and collection agent.

(12) "Firm electric service" means electric service other than nonfirm electric service.

(13) "Governmental aggregator" means a legislative
authority of a municipal corporation, a board of township
trustees, or a board of county commissioners acting as an
aggregator for the provision of a competitive retail electric
service under authority conferred under section 4928.20 of the

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Revised Code.

(14) A person acts "knowingly," regardless of the person's 76 purpose, when the person is aware that the person's conduct will 77 probably cause a certain result or will probably be of a certain 78 nature. A person has knowledge of circumstances when the person 79 is aware that such circumstances probably exist. 80

(15) "Level of funding for low-income customer energy 81 efficiency programs provided through electric utility rates" 82 means the level of funds specifically included in an electric 83 utility's rates on October 5, 1999, pursuant to an order of the 84 public utilities commission issued under Chapter 4905. or 4909. 85 of the Revised Code and in effect on October 4, 1999, for the 86 purpose of improving the energy efficiency of housing for the 87 utility's low-income customers. The term excludes the level of 88 any such funds committed to a specific nonprofit organization or 89 organizations pursuant to a stipulation or contract. 90

(16) "Low-income customer assistance programs" means the
percentage of income payment plan program, the home energy
assistance program, the home weatherization assistance program,
and the targeted energy efficiency and weatherization program.

(17) "Market development period" for an electric utility
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means the period of time beginning on the starting date of
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competitive retail electric service and ending on the applicable
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date for that utility as specified in section 4928.40 of the
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Revised Code, irrespective of whether the utility applies to
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receive transition revenues under this chapter.

(18) "Market power" means the ability to impose on
customers a sustained price for a product or service above the
price that would prevail in a competitive market.

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(19) "Mercantile customer" means a commercial or
industrial customer if the electricity consumed is for
nonresidential use and the customer consumes more than seven
hundred thousand kilowatt hours per year or is part of a
national account involving multiple facilities in one or more
states.

(20) "Municipal electric utility" means a municipal
corporation that owns or operates facilities to generate,
transmit, or distribute electricity.

(21) "Noncompetitive retail electric service" means a
component of retail electric service that is noncompetitive as
provided under division (B) of this section.

(22) "Nonfirm electric service" means electric service
provided pursuant to a schedule filed under section 4905.30 of
the Revised Code or pursuant to an arrangement under section
4905.31 of the Revised Code, which schedule or arrangement
includes conditions that may require the customer to curtail or
interrupt electric usage during nonemergency circumstances upon
notification by an electric utility.

(23) "Percentage of income payment plan arrears" means
funds eligible for collection through the percentage of income
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payment plan rider, but uncollected as of July 1, 2000.
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(24) "Person" has the same meaning as in section 1.59 of 126 the Revised Code.

(25) "Advanced energy project" means any technologies,
products, activities, or management practices or strategies that
facilitate the generation or use of electricity or energy and
that reduce or support the reduction of energy consumption or
support the production of clean, renewable energy for

industrial, distribution, commercial, institutional,
governmental, research, not-for-profit, or residential energy
users, including, but not limited to, advanced energy resources
and renewable energy resources. "Advanced energy project" also
includes any project described in division (A), (B), or (C) of
section 4928.621 of the Revised Code.

(26) "Regulatory assets" means the unamortized net 139 regulatory assets that are capitalized or deferred on the 140 regulatory books of the electric utility, pursuant to an order 141 or practice of the public utilities commission or pursuant to 142 generally accepted accounting principles as a result of a prior 143 commission rate-making decision, and that would otherwise have 144 been charged to expense as incurred or would not have been 145 capitalized or otherwise deferred for future regulatory 146 consideration absent commission action. "Regulatory assets" 147 includes, but is not limited to, all deferred demand-side 148 management costs; all deferred percentage of income payment plan 149 arrears; post-in-service capitalized charges and assets 150 recognized in connection with statement of financial accounting 151 standards no. 109 (receivables from customers for income taxes); 152 future nuclear decommissioning costs and fuel disposal costs as 153 those costs have been determined by the commission in the 154 electric utility's most recent rate or accounting application 155 proceeding addressing such costs; the undepreciated costs of 156 safety and radiation control equipment on nuclear generating 157 plants owned or leased by an electric utility; and fuel costs 158 currently deferred pursuant to the terms of one or more 159 settlement agreements approved by the commission. 160

(27) "Retail electric service" means any service involved
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in supplying or arranging for the supply of electricity to
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ultimate consumers in this state, from the point of generation
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to the point of consumption. For the purposes of this chapter,164retail electric service includes one or more of the following165"service components": generation service, aggregation service,166power marketing service, power brokerage service, transmission167service, distribution service, ancillary service, metering168service, and billing and collection service.169

(28) "Starting date of competitive retail electricservice" means January 1, 2001.171

(29) "Customer-generator" means a user of a net metering172system.173

(30) "Net metering" means measuring the difference in an
applicable billing period between the electricity supplied by an
electric service provider and the electricity generated by a
customer-generator that is fed back to the electric service
provider.

(31) "Net metering system" means a facility for theproduction of electrical energy that does all of the following:180

(a) Uses as its fuel either solar, wind, biomass, landfillgas, or hydropower, or uses a microturbine or a fuel cell;182

(b) Is located on a customer-generator's premises; 183

(c) Operates in parallel with the electric utility's184transmission and distribution facilities;185

(d) Is intended primarily to offset part or all of the
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customer-generator's requirements for electricity. For an
industrial customer-generator with a net metering system that
has a capacity of less than twenty megawatts and uses wind as
energy, this means the net metering system was sized so as to
not exceed one hundred per cent of the customer-generator's

annual requirements for electric energy at the time of 192 interconnection. 193 (32) "Self-generator" means an entity in this state that 194 owns or hosts on its premises an electric generation facility 195 that produces electricity primarily for the owner's consumption 196 and that may provide any such excess electricity to another 197 entity, whether the facility is installed or operated by the 198 199 owner or by an agent under a contract. (33) "Rate plan" means the standard service offer in 200 effect on the effective date of the amendment of this section by 201 S.B. 221 of the 127th general assembly, July 31, 2008. 202 (34) "Advanced energy resource" means any of the 203 following: 204 (a) Any method or any modification or replacement of any 205 property, process, device, structure, or equipment that 206 increases the generation output of an electric generating 207 facility to the extent such efficiency is achieved without 208 additional carbon dioxide emissions by that facility; 209 (b) Any distributed generation system consisting of 210 customer cogeneration technology; 211 212 (c) Clean coal technology that includes a carbon-based product that is chemically altered before combustion to 213 demonstrate a reduction, as expressed as ash, in emissions of 214 nitrous oxide, mercury, arsenic, chlorine, sulfur dioxide, or 215 sulfur trioxide in accordance with the American society of 216 testing and materials standard D1757A or a reduction of metal 217 oxide emissions in accordance with standard D5142 of that 218 society, or clean coal technology that includes the design 219

capability to control or prevent the emission of carbon dioxide, 220

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which design capability the commission shall adopt by rule and 221
shall be based on economically feasible best available 222
technology or, in the absence of a determined best available 223
technology, shall be of the highest level of economically 224
feasible design capability for which there exists generally 225
accepted scientific opinion; 226

(d) Advanced nuclear energy technology consisting of
generation III technology as defined by the nuclear regulatory
commission; other, later technology; or significant improvements
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to existing facilities;
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(e) Any fuel cell used in the generation of electricity,
including, but not limited to, a proton exchange membrane fuel
cell, phosphoric acid fuel cell, molten carbonate fuel cell, or
solid oxide fuel cell;

(f) Advanced solid waste or construction and demolition 235 debris conversion technology, including, but not limited to, 236 advanced stoker technology, and advanced fluidized bed 237 gasification technology, that results in measurable greenhouse 238 gas emissions reductions as calculated pursuant to the United 239 States environmental protection agency's waste reduction model 240 (WARM); 241

(g) Demand-side management and any energy efficiency improvement;

(h) Any new, retrofitted, refueled, or repowered
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generating facility located in Ohio, including a simple or
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combined-cycle natural gas generating facility or a generating
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facility that uses biomass, coal, modular nuclear, or any other
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fuel as its input;

(i) Any uprated capacity of an existing electric

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generating facility if the uprated capacity results from the 250 deployment of advanced technology. 251 "Advanced energy resource" does not include a waste energy 252 recovery system that is, or has been, included in an energy 253 efficiency program of an electric distribution utility pursuant 254 to requirements under section 4928.66 of the Revised Code. 255 (35) "Air contaminant source" has the same meaning as in 256 section 3704.01 of the Revised Code. 257 (36) "Cogeneration technology" means technology that 258 produces electricity and useful thermal output simultaneously. 259 (37) (a) "Renewable energy resource" means any of the 260 following: 261 (i) Solar photovoltaic or solar thermal energy; 262 (ii) Wind energy; 263 (iii) Power produced by a hydroelectric facility; 264 (iv) Power produced by a small hydroelectric facility, 265 which is a facility that operates, or is rated to operate, at an 266 aggregate capacity of less than six megawatts; 267 (v) Power produced by a run-of-the-river hydroelectric 268 facility placed in service on or after January 1, 1980, that is 269 located within this state, relies upon the Ohio river, and 270 operates, or is rated to operate, at an aggregate capacity of 271 forty or more megawatts; 272 (vi) Geothermal energy; 273 (vii) Fuel derived from solid wastes, as defined in 274 section 3734.01 of the Revised Code, through fractionation, 275 biological decomposition, or other process that does not 276

principally involve combustion; 277 (viii) Biomass energy; 278 (ix) Energy produced by cogeneration technology that is 279 placed into service on or before December 31, 2015, and for 280 which more than ninety per cent of the total annual energy input 2.81 is from combustion of a waste or byproduct gas from an air 282 contaminant source in this state, which source has been in 283 operation since on or before January 1, 1985, provided that the 284 cogeneration technology is a part of a facility located in a 285 county having a population of more than three hundred sixty-five 286 thousand but less than three hundred seventy thousand according 287 to the most recent federal decennial census; 288 (x) Biologically derived methane gas; 289 (xi) Heat captured from a generator of electricity, 290 boiler, or heat exchanger fueled by biologically derived methane 291 292 gas; (xii) Energy derived from nontreated by-products of the 293 pulping process or wood manufacturing process, including bark, 294 wood chips, sawdust, and lignin in spent pulping liquors. 295 "Renewable energy resource" includes, but is not limited 296 to, any fuel cell used in the generation of electricity, 297 298 including, but not limited to, a proton exchange membrane fuel cell, phosphoric acid fuel cell, molten carbonate fuel cell, or 299 solid oxide fuel cell; wind turbine located in the state's 300 territorial waters of Lake Erie; methane gas emitted from an 301

territorial waters of Lake Erie; methane gas emitted from an301abandoned coal mine; waste energy recovery system placed into302service or retrofitted on or after the effective date of the303amendment of this section by S.B. 315 of the 129th general304assembly, September 10, 2012, except that a waste energy305

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recovery system described in division (A) (38) (b) of this section 306 may be included only if it was placed into service between 307 January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2004; storage facility that 308 will promote the better utilization of a renewable energy 309 resource; or distributed generation system used by a customer to 310 generate electricity from any such energy. 311

"Renewable energy resource" does not include a waste 312
energy recovery system that is, or was, on or after January 1, 313
2012, included in an energy efficiency program of an electric 314
distribution utility pursuant to requirements under section 315
4928.66 of the Revised Code. 316

(b) As used in division (A) (37) of this section,
"hydroelectric facility" means a hydroelectric generating
facility that is located at a dam on a river, or on any water
discharged to a river, that is within or bordering this state or
within or bordering an adjoining state and meets all of the
following standards:

(i) The facility provides for river flows that are not
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detrimental for fish, wildlife, and water quality, including
seasonal flow fluctuations as defined by the applicable
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licensing agency for the facility.

(ii) The facility demonstrates that it complies with the 327 water quality standards of this state, which compliance may 328 consist of certification under Section 401 of the "Clean Water 329 Act of 1977," 91 Stat. 1598, 1599, 33 U.S.C. 1341, and 330 demonstrates that it has not contributed to a finding by this 331 state that the river has impaired water quality under Section 332 303(d) of the "Clean Water Act of 1977," 114 Stat. 870, 33 333 U.S.C. 1313. 334

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(iii) The facility complies with mandatory prescriptions 335 regarding fish passage as required by the federal energy 336 regulatory commission license issued for the project, regarding 337 fish protection for riverine, anadromous, and catadromous fish. 338 (iv) The facility complies with the recommendations of the 339 Ohio environmental protection agency and with the terms of its 340 federal energy regulatory commission license regarding watershed 341 protection, mitigation, or enhancement, to the extent of each 342 agency's respective jurisdiction over the facility. 343 (v) The facility complies with provisions of the 344 "Endangered Species Act of 1973," 87 Stat. 884, 16 U.S.C. 1531 345 to 1544, as amended. 346 (vi) The facility does not harm cultural resources of the 347 area. This can be shown through compliance with the terms of its 348 federal energy regulatory commission license or, if the facility 349 is not regulated by that commission, through development of a 350 plan approved by the Ohio historic preservation office, to the 351 extent it has jurisdiction over the facility. 352

(vii) The facility complies with the terms of its federal energy regulatory commission license or exemption that are related to recreational access, accommodation, and facilities or, if the facility is not regulated by that commission, the facility complies with similar requirements as are recommended by resource agencies, to the extent they have jurisdiction over the facility; and the facility provides access to water to the public without fee or charge.

(viii) The facility is not recommended for removal by any
federal agency or agency of any state, to the extent the
particular agency has jurisdiction over the facility.
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(c) The standards in divisions (A) (37) (b) (i) to (viii) of 364 this section do not apply to a small hydroelectric facility 365 under division (A) (37) (a) (iv) of this section. 366 (38) "Waste energy recovery system" means either of the 367 following: 368 (a) A facility that generates electricity through the 369 conversion of energy from either of the following: 370 (i) Exhaust heat from engines or manufacturing, 371 industrial, commercial, or institutional sites, except for 372 exhaust heat from a facility whose primary purpose is the 373 374 generation of electricity; (ii) Reduction of pressure in gas pipelines before gas is 375 distributed through the pipeline, provided that the conversion 376 of energy to electricity is achieved without using additional 377 fossil fuels. 378 (b) A facility at a state institution of higher education 379 as defined in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code that recovers 380 waste heat from electricity-producing engines or combustion 381 turbines and that simultaneously uses the recovered heat to 382 produce steam, provided that the facility was placed into 383 service between January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2004. 384 (39) "Smart grid" means capital improvements to an 385 electric distribution utility's distribution infrastructure that 386

improve reliability, efficiency, resiliency, or reduce energy 387
demand or use, including, but not limited to, advanced metering 388
and automation of system functions. 389

(40) "Combined heat and power system" means the
coproduction of electricity and useful thermal energy from the
same fuel source designed to achieve thermal-efficiency levels
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of at least sixty per cent, with at least twenty per cent of the 393 system's total useful energy in the form of thermal energy. 394

(41) "Legacy generation resource" means all generating
facilities owned directly or indirectly by a corporation that
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was formed prior to 1960 by investor-owned utilities for the
original purpose of providing power to the federal government
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for use in the nation's defense or in furtherance of national
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interests, including the Ohio valley electric corporation.

401 (42) "Prudently incurred costs related to a legacy generation resource" means costs, including deferred costs, 402 allocated pursuant to a power agreement approved by the federal 403 energy regulatory commission that relates to a legacy generation 404 resource, less any revenues realized from offering the 405 contractual commitment for the power agreement into the 406 wholesale markets, provided that where the net revenues exceed 407 net costs, those excess revenues shall be credited to customers. 408 Such costs shall exclude any return on investment in common 409 equity and, in the event of a premature retirement of a legacy 410 generation resource, shall exclude any recovery of remaining 411 debt. Such costs shall include any incremental costs resulting 412 413 from the bankruptcy of a current or former sponsor under such power agreement or co-owner of the legacy generation resource if 414 not otherwise recovered through a utility rate cost recovery 415 mechanism. 416

(43)(43)(a) "Green energy" means any energy generated by using an energy resource that does one or more of the following:

(a) (i) Releases reduced air pollutants, thereby reducing 419 cumulative air emissions; 420

(ii) Is more sustainable and reliable relative to some

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fossil fuels.

(b) "Green energy" includes energy generated by-using natural gas the followingas a resource: (i) Natural gas as a resource;

### (ii) Nuclear reaction.

(B) For the purposes of this chapter, a retail electric 427 service component shall be deemed a competitive retail electric 428 service if the service component is competitive pursuant to a 429 declaration by a provision of the Revised Code or pursuant to an 430 order of the public utilities commission authorized under 431 division (A) of section 4928.04 of the Revised Code. Otherwise, 432 the service component shall be deemed a noncompetitive retail 433 electric service. 434

Section 2. That existing section 4928.01 of the Revised 435 Code is hereby repealed. 436

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