

Representative Stein, Representative Brennan, and the House Energy and Natural Resources Committee at large;

This is a written testimony in favor of House Bill 308. The issue of whether or not nuclear energy from fission qualifies as green energy is a semantics debate that this committee has the opportunity to settle for the people of Ohio. As a graduate of Penn State's Energy Sustainability Policy I am familiar with the topic and as a voting resident of Ohio as well as a Nuclear worker with twenty years experience I am invested in this particular distinction.

The matter of priorities is the one which cuts through to the heart of this issue. If the priority of the Representatives of the people of Ohio is to establish an energy program focused on sustainability and the reduction of harmful emissions nuclear energy is a necessary component of a successful path forward. The Department of Energy has repeatedly articulated the clean nature and importance of nuclear energy. (Article:

<https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/3-reasons-why-nuclear-clean-and-sustainable>)

The Associated Press reported in 2022 that 2/3s of the US's States, the current presidential administration(as well as the former), and the global Clean Energy Ministerial all have stated unequivocally that Nuclear Energy is a crucial component of a clean energy future. (<https://www.npr.org/2022/01/18/1073726137/the-us-is-divided-over-whether-nuclear-power-is-part-of-the-green-energy-future>)

Even in that reporting the article states that there is a divide in support for nuclear. That divide is about personal interest and assets. States, Nations, the EU and other government bodies tend to protect and invest in the assets they have to best fit the resources of the future.

Ohio has Nuclear Energy assets, and it would be a disservice to the people of Ohio who depend on the value those assets bring to cast them aside as part of the old. Nuclear Energy is zero emission, longstanding and high efficiency energy that stands to boon those who value it and I urge you to consider incorporating it into your green energy plan for Ohio's future.

Signed,

Shonn Michael Thomas