

## **Ohio House Public Utilities Committee**

Proponent Testimony of  
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House Bill 197  
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Chairman Stein, Vice Chair Robb Blasdel, Ranking Member Weinstein, and members of the House Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 197, the Community Solar Bill on behalf of NextEra Energy Resources.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Representative Hoops and Representative Ray for sponsoring this groundbreaking legislation and acknowledge the support of the numerous co-sponsors including those sitting on this committee.

NextEra Energy Resources stands as a pillar in the energy industry, with a diverse energy portfolio encompassing a range of renewable as well as conventional, sustainability-focused solutions. Our commitment towards steering the nation toward energy independence is unwavering, including staunchly advocating for the harnessing of homegrown energy sources such as the sun. Our extensive engagement in the energy industry underscores a commitment to a sustainable future, fueling economic growth and enhancing the quality of life for all Ohioans through energy solutions.

Since 2017, NextEra Energy Resources and its subsidiaries have been playing a role in Ohio's economic growth and elevating the state's quality of life. Through strategic investments in a portfolio of distributed energy generation facilities, we have supported Ohio's steady march towards energy independence.

The Solar Energy Industries Association ranks Ohio 26th in installed solar capacity, a testament to the state's burgeoning interest in solar energy, a sector where we are proud to play a pivotal role.

Today in Ohio, NextEra has 14 distributed generation facilities in operation and 2 distributed generation projects in development.

NextEra has invested more than \$112 million in capital into Ohio. We have an annual Ohio Payroll of approximately \$4.9 million and in addition to making payments to land owners, we annually pay about \$2.3 million in state and local property taxes.

We are proud to point out a few of our significant energy resources in Ohio, including our 20MW project in Bowling Green (Wood County), our 6.2MW project in Wadsworth (Media County) and our 12.6MW Piqua-Manier project (Miami County) illustrating our steadfast commitment to Ohio's energy sector. Attached to this testimony is a fact sheet covering our investments in Ohio for your review.

For more than three years, we have actively participated in the Ohio community solar dialogue, collaborating closely with legislators and local communities. We've demonstrated a readiness to compromise, accepting valuable inputs from various stakeholders, including local government bodies, the agricultural sector, and investor-owned utilities. This cooperative approach underscores our commitment to developing a community solar framework that serves the best interest of all Ohioans. We believe in Community Solar that is cost effective and good for customers.

We have deep experience in community solar projects and, when done right, they garner praise for ushering sustainable, localized energy solutions, fostering job creation, and encouraging a cleaner energy future

Our community solar development efforts include giving new life to brownfields, Appalachian areas, and former coal plant sites, aiming to spur economic revival and foster energy generation in these areas. And we are prepared to act. NextEra is poised to channel substantial capital into Ohio, with the ability to act swiftly, enhancing Ohio's renewable energy landscape, as soon as this bill secures approval.

House Bill 197 paves the way for a level playing field, not offering a subsidy but encouraging competition and innovation in the energy sector, principles we firmly stand by. HB 197 achieves the goal of encouraging responsible community solar projects. These projects will bring not only environmental benefits, but economic benefits as well.

Members of the House Public Utilities Committee, thank you for considering our written testimony. I apologize for not being able to be with you in person on short notice, but we at NextEra will make ourselves available to answer any questions you have and look forward to productive discussions.

# Affordable, homegrown energy for Ohio



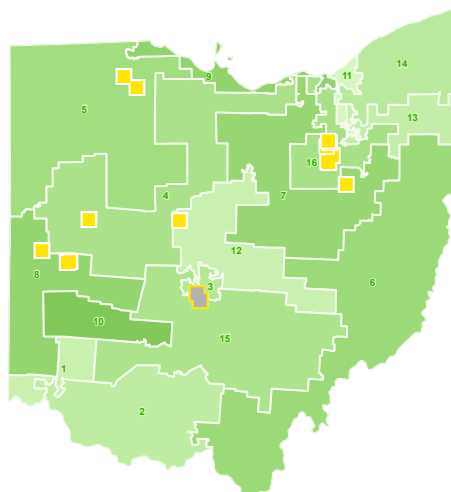
Bowling Green Solar in Wood County

- » Since 2017, NextEra Energy Resources' subsidiaries have been helping fuel the state's economic growth and quality of life, and moving our country toward energy independence.
- » Our subsidiaries own and operate a portfolio of distributed energy resources in the state.
- » Ohio's interest in solar energy is growing, and the state is now ranked No. 26 in installed solar capacity, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association.

## NextEra Energy Resources' assets in Ohio

**14**  
 distributed energy resources  
 in operation

**2**  
 distributed energy resources  
 in development



Legend: ■ Distributed Energy Resources ■ Development/Construction

### About NextEra Energy Resources

- » The world's largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and the sun.
- » A leading energy provider, operating wind, natural gas, solar and nuclear power plants, as well as battery energy storage.
- » Nearly all of the electricity we generate comes from clean or renewable sources.
- » A subsidiary of NextEra Energy, Inc., with headquarters in Juno Beach, Florida.

### Benefits of our energy investments in Ohio

Approximately  
**\$112 million**  
 total capital investment



Approximately  
**\$4.9 million**  
 annual payroll



**\$29,000**  
 annual land payments



**\$2.3 million**  
 in property taxes, 2022\*

\* Annual Property Taxes: Includes property tax and other indirect taxes. Internal data based on 2022 full year.

**Solar energy is cost competitive\***

During the last 10 years, the cost of solar energy has decreased more than

**80%**

\* Source: Solar Energy Industries Association

### NextEra Energy Resources' Ohio Distributed Energy Resources

Name	County	MW
Bowling Green	Wood	20
Brewster	Stark	1.9
City of Rittman	Wayne	0.7
Haskins	Wood	0.7
Jackson Center	Shelby	1.6
Jackson Pike (development)	Franklin	18
Marshallville	Wayne	0.7
Orville 2	Wayne	1.0
Orville 3	Wayne	2.3
Parsons Ave (development)	Franklin	27
Piqua-Manier	Miami	12.6
Piqua-Staunton	Miami	1.8
Prospect	Marion	0.2
Rittman	Medina	2.6
Versailles	Drake	1.8
Wadsworth	Medina	6.2



*Piqua Manier Solar in Miami County*

For more information, please visit [NextEraEnergyResources.com](https://www.NextEraEnergyResources.com)

Updated July 2023