

September 20, 2023

Proponent Testimony by Joe Rosenberg of TurningPoint Energy on House Bill 197
House Public Utilities Committee

Chairman Stein, Vice-Chair Robb-Blasdel, Ranking Member Weinstein, and members of the House Public Utilities Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit proponent testimony in support of HB 197, a bill that will create a pilot community solar program in Ohio. My name is Joe Rosenberg and I'm the Director of Business Development at TurningPoint Energy (TPE). TPE is one of the leading community solar developers in the United States.

HB 197 is an important bill for Ohio because community solar can provide several important benefits to the state. I would like to focus on the following benefits.

- **Jobs:** Adds numerous good paying jobs to the 7,400 Ohioans already employed in the solar industry. Jobs that will be created during the development, construction, and operation of these projects.
- **Energy Bill Savings:** Allows renters, non-profits, businesses, schools, hospitals, and universities the opportunity to subscribe to a solar project and realize monthly savings on their energy bill. This is especially important for those that are struggling with rising electricity costs. These people or entities may not have the ability to install solar panels on their premises.
- **Tax Revenue:** For local counties, these projects will provide additional property tax revenue through the assessment of these projects.
- **Community Control:** Smaller projects that can be built with community input as these projects will be permitted through local permitting process.
- **Developing Distressed Sites:** Generates new revenue streams for distressed properties, such as brownfield sites, that would otherwise sit vacant through a 500MW carve-out.

I encourage you to support HB 197 as it will allow community solar to flourish in Ohio. TPE is eager to invest our resources and capital in the state and to help stimulate the clean energy economy. Thank you again for your time and consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Joe Rosenberg
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