

May 24, 2023

Testimony in Opposition to including HB 434 into the Budget Bill!

To Chair Dolan, Vice Chair Cerino, Ranking Member Craig and members of the Senate Finance Committee.

It is very upsetting that Ohio HB 434, which creates a Ohio Nuclear Development Authority, has been included into the Ohio Budget Bill, HB 33. I previously wrote a letter in opposition to HB 434 because of its radioactivity danger and the high financial cost it may place on Ohioans. The wording of HB 434 should be removed from the Budget Bill.

There is a real possibility that this reactor could leak deadly radiation if the reactor was ever to be completed. Thorium and molten salt reactors mentioned specifically in HB 434 are expensive and dangerous. I don't want my state to be the site of the next Chernobyl disaster. There is also the danger from the radioactive waste created. The storage of such waste is always a huge problem and a health hazard. That waste will stay hazardous and radioactive for thousands of years. The lives of Ohioans could be put at risk for centuries.

Proof that this nuclear reactor project is not viable financially is that Wall Street will not fund it nor will any other state. The fact is that Ohioans could wind up paying for this scheme indefinitely. Dealing with the radioactive waste could also fall on Ohioans. A single company is pushing this project and seems to be the biggest beneficiary-- eGeneration. Ohio taxpayers definitely should not be providing the funding for such a dubious and potentially dangerous and costly nuclear project.

Ohioans should not be held financially liable for HB 434 after the citizen rip-off that occurred with HB 6.

Ohio needs safe, clean renewable energy and energy efficiency programs, not a untested and dangerous nuclear reactor rip-off. A good example of renewable energy use can be seen in Indiana. That state has installed many wind turbines and solar panels along interstate 65.

Sincerely,

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