



April 8, 2025

The Honorable Brian Chavez
Chairman
Ohio Senate Energy Committee
1 Capitol Square
Ground Floor, Room 034
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Ohio Oil and Gas Association House Bill 15 Written Proponent Testimony

Dear Chairman Chavez:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony for House Bill 15, on behalf of the Ohio Oil and Gas Association (OOGA). OOGA is a 78-year-old statewide trade association representing both independent conventional producers and large independent horizontal operators exploring Ohio's shale play. OOGA membership also consists of midstream companies, large-scale transmission line companies, refineries, contractors, oilfield service and supply providers, manufacturers, gas utilities and various other professional entities.

House Bill 15 proposes a myriad of changes to Ohio's electric utility and generation laws. Updating and modernizing these laws will help Ohio utilize its natural competitive advantage provided by the state's oil and gas producers.

Ohio natural gas is crucial to the state's electricity grid and households. Of the roughly 100,000+ megawatts (MWs) flowing through the PJM grid on any given day, natural gas serves as the dominant fuel source.

Just last month, PJM set a new record for electricity demand with a 145,000 MW peak on January 22nd. Ohio's natural gas electric infrastructure and generation units answered the call with flying colors and were able to dispatch another 8,000 MWs out of PJM to support neighboring grids to help keep the lights on across the country.

Ohio is a natural gas juggernaut. In fact, Ohio produces more natural gas per year than it consumes, making it an exporter of this vital energy resource. Ohio ranks tenth nationally in overall energy production and seventh in natural gas production. Much of the natural gas is consumed by the many gas generation facilities across the state, which provide electricity for Ohioans. The electric power sector has been the state's largest natural gas consumer since 2018. In 2023, electric generation in Ohio consumed a record amount of natural gas and accounted for two-fifths of the state's consumption.

Ohio is well positioned to lead the charge in baseload power generation. Not only is Ohio seventh in gas production, but we also have the seventh-largest natural gas storage capacity in the country. The state's 24 underground natural gas storage fields have a combined storage capacity of about 575 billion cubic feet, approximately 6% of the total U.S. storage capacity.

House Bill 15 will build on these natural and strategic advantages in Ohio. We urge the committee to favorably pass the bill.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Brundrett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rob Brundrett
President