



May 15, 2018

The Honorable Larry Obhof
Ohio Senate
On Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

The Honorable Kirk Schuring
Ohio House
On Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Senate President Obhof & Representative Schuring:

The American Council on Renewable Energy and members of its U.S. Partnership for Renewable Energy Finance (PREF) write to communicate our support for more reasonable wind setbacks, which our analysis shows could help grow Ohio's wind industry and drive over \$2.2 billion in investment and economic activity by allowing a number of wind projects to move forward.

Ohio has an excellent renewable resource base to harness for low-cost electricity generation and promotion of in-state economic investment and development. Ohio also has a large and diverse industrial sector, along with a rapidly growing technology sector, which are increasingly weighing their abilities to access renewable power when making investment and siting decisions. These attributes make Ohio a particularly attractive state for renewable energy investment, and the state has already attracted over \$1.3 billion in private investment in the renewable energy sector.

However, this potential is stymied by the existing wind setback requirements. US PREF analysis found that common-sense wind setbacks could unleash additional renewable energy development in Ohio and attract \$2.2 billion in investment and economic activity (from wind projects with approved or pending permits and announced projects with no permits) and grow the wind industry in the state through the construction of thousands of megawatts of cost-competitive renewable power.

We appreciate your support for effective policies to encourage renewable energy investment and development in Ohio. We remain hopeful that you and other state leaders will advance a market framework that will enable even greater private sector investment and development. Debate on wind setback reform has been drawn out for too long, and with the ramping down of the federal wind production tax credit, Ohio can't afford to lose another year of development opportunities. The time to act is now.

Thank you for your attention to these important issues. Please let us know if we can provide additional information. We are happy to respond to any inquires from your office. Please have them contact Todd Foley, Senior Vice President, Policy & Government Relations (foley@acore.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory S. Wetstone".

Gregory Wetstone
President & Chief Executive Officer
ACORE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Foley".

Todd Foley
Senior Vice President of Policy and Government
Relations
ACORE