

SB 52 & HB 118

IMPACT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRY



Ohio SB 52 in opposition to pro-business and free-market principles that have guided Ohio for many years. These bills insert burdensome layers of regulation on two forms of energy generation only and create uncertainty for future investment in this state.

- With the selection of wind and solar as the only energy generation included in the bills, the government is picking winners and losers in the energy industry.
 - Perhaps most challenging for any economic development, chamber of commerce or workforce development organization is the dangerous precedent these bills present. This legislation lays a foundation for any new investment in a community being subject to a local vote.
 - These bills would establish a precedent for local votes for any other kind of agricultural land usage such as large livestock operations, specific crops, or ag equipment such as loud grain bin dryers, allowing a local township vote on what you smell, hear or see.
 - This legislation will drive business away from Ohio. “Capital goes where it is welcome and stays where it is well treated.” Corporate investment will never be safe in Ohio if the rules can change at any given time. Certainty matters.
 - Ohio stands to generate more than \$18 Billion in economic investment from solar projects including: up to 54,111 construction jobs and 618 annual operations and maintenance jobs which could disappear with the uncertainty and an unstable environment for developers and the companies that finance these projects created by this legislation.
 - Fortune 100 and 500 companies want to procure less expensive renewable energy in the states where they have operations.
 - These bills infringe on individual property rights and create roadblocks for landowners who seek to utilize renewable energy as additional farm income, to help keep the family farm in the family as well as to generate new tax revenues for the county.
 - At a time when many Ohio communities, especially rural counties are looking to rebuild their economy, clean energy investment is often the #1 opportunity to diversify their economy, attract new jobs and increase tax revenues. The state should not create industry focused barriers to drive this investment away.
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OHIO RENEWABLE ENERGY ECONOMIC BENEFITS

\$2 billion



Capital invested in wind, solar, and energy storage projects

\$11.2 million

Annual property, state, and local taxes paid in Ohio via renewable energy projects

\$8.9 million

Annual income to farmers, ranchers, and other private landowners via renewable energy projects

THE ECONOMIC POWER OF SOLAR

Ohio has the potential to be one of the top states for utility scale solar development in the coming decades. That potential, unfortunately, is in jeopardy due to the anti-business and anti-free market legislation presented in SB 52 and HB 118, which creates more barriers and uncertainty for private sector investment.

Economic highlights of utility scale solar include:

- A 2020 study by Ohio University estimated the impacts of OH utility scale solar projects over a 40-year term include:
 - **\$18 billion** in economic impact
 - **54,113** construction jobs (80% Ohioans)
 - **\$2.8 billion** in tax revenues
- Often described as an “once-in-a-generation” opportunity, utility scale solar provides landowners with decades of recession-proof, annual payments typically 3-5 times greater than traditional crop revenues.
- First Solar, the largest solar module manufacturer in the Western Hemisphere, employs more than 1,600 people in NW Ohio and recently announced plans to add another 700 jobs via a \$680 million expansion.

Ohio Power Siting Board **Power Siting Solar Case Status** As of 12/10/2021



Project Status	
Certified Projects Total:	(4,500.5 MW) (45,066 Acres)
Operational	(350.0 MW) (3,198 Acres)
Under Construction	(444.0 MW) (5,297 Acres)
Preconstruction	(3,706.5 MW) (36,565 Acres)
Non-Certified Projects Total:	(3,742.7 MW) (34,393 Acres)
Pending	(3,162.7 MW) (29,068 Acres)
Pre-Application	(580.0 MW) (5,325 Acres)