

# Purpose & Policy Overview



## PURPOSE

The Energy Jobs & Justice Act is a bold, comprehensive energy policy for all Ohioans. It implements equitable clean energy solutions and carbon reductions while ensuring much-needed accountability, transparency, and Ohio PUC reform.



## STATE ENERGY POLICY FOR PEOPLE, NOT UTILITIES

The last two years have unveiled deep corruption within our utility regulatory structure and statehouse at a level previously unseen in the state of Ohio. It exposed alarming structural flaws in Ohio law that put the interests of utilities and energy companies above the interests of people and communities. Ohioans deserve policy solutions that benefit our economic future, our communities, and our health.

The Energy Jobs & Justice Act moves Ohio toward a comprehensive clean energy policy rooted in equity, economic development, environmental justice and accountability. The Energy Jobs & Justice Act ensures that Ohio emerges with an energy policy designed for all Ohioans.

## OBJECTIVES

**THE ENERGY JOBS & JUSTICE ACT CONSISTS OF THREE MAIN OBJECTIVES:**



Move Ohio towards a more equitable clean energy future by encouraging clean energy growth, energy waste reduction, and curbing utility influence over policymaking and regulatory actions



Launch the state's largest economic development initiative in recent history by prioritizing clean energy jobs and environmental justice programs



Center equitable policy designed to ensure clean energy benefits go to those most historically and disproportionately harmed by Ohio's regressive energy policies

## POLICY OVERVIEW

The Energy Jobs & Justice Act categorizes revisions in Ohio law into three primary policy pillars that provide the accountability and transparency necessary to ensure an equitable energy landscape that exists to serve all Ohioans. The Energy Jobs & Justice Act focuses on the development and implementation of clean energy and energy waste reduction standards that are proven to grow jobs and save Ohioans billions of dollars by decreasing energy consumption.

## EQUITY

- Promote just transition for underserved Ohio communities and those previously dependent upon or soon-to-be transitioning away from fossil fuels
- Direct resources and support to reduce structural and institutional barriers historically faced by Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities
- Invest in workforce development and contractor equity, which will attract billions in new private workforce investment in Ohio

## CARBON EMISSIONS REDUCTION

- Ensure all electricity sold to Ohio utility customers and all electricity generated in Ohio is 100% carbon-free by 2050 with interim year benchmarks to ensure Ohio stays on track with this goal
- Level the playing field for renewables in Ohio by removing overly burdensome red tape on siting new wind farms in Ohio, enabling community solar, and making permanent the local tax mechanism that ensures new renewable project revenue flows to school districts and county governments.
- Identify all opportunities to eliminate energy waste in an electric system that serves old outdated equipment and buildings, and save consumers money in the process

## TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Create the Office of Energy Justice to ensure PUCO decisions are guided by and benefit from the principles of energy justice
- Strengthen the ability for state regulators to audit and investigate any utility engaging in possible malfeasance
- Remove undue utility influence over the Ohio Public Utilities Commission

## CONCLUSION

The Energy Jobs & Justice Act proposes to move Ohio toward a comprehensive clean energy policy rooted in equity, economic development, and accountability. Building a strategy around solutions that are good for our economy, our communities, and our health will ensure that Ohio emerges with an energy policy designed for all Ohioans.

