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61st House District
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Chairman: Joint Committee on Agency Rule
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Chairman: Public Utilities
Rules and Reference
Finance
Civil Justice

Jamie Callender
State Representative

July 7, 2020

Samuel Randazzo, Chairman
Ohio Power Siting Board
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Support for Project Icebreaker

Dear Chairman Randazzo,

I write to reiterate my support for the Icebreaker offshore wind project, and its "Application for Rehearing" regarding the Ohio Power Siting Board's May 21, 2020, "Opinion and Order." The Board issued a Certificate of Approval that contains a new condition to feather the wind turbines from dusk to dawn each night for eight months of the year.

I have supported Icebreaker since it was first conceived at The Cleveland Foundation over a decade ago. Not only would the project position Ohio as a national leader in the emerging offshore wind industry, but the first-of-its-kind demonstration facility will bring substantial economic benefits to Northeast Ohio—injecting over \$250 million into the local economy and creating over 500 Ohio-based skilled trades jobs. It will also add diversity to the state's energy portfolio, helping to deliver clean energy to the region.

I understand the Condition to feather at night will severely strain the project's economic output and destroy the ability for Icebreaker to repay a construction loan in a commercially reasonable timeframe. While ostensibly intended to protect the local bird and bat population, this restriction also contradicts the signed agreement for wildlife mitigation entered into between OPSB's technical staff, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Icebreaker, and The



Ohio Environmental Council. The restriction also contradicts the finding by the federal US Fish and Wildlife Service that the project is "low risk."

I respect the Board's authority to impose additional conditions and balance the interests between wildlife protection and the need for electric generation infrastructure. But in this instance, I would ask the Board consider modifying its decision so that the region's offshore wind potential can be tested through this innovative project.

As always, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamie Callender".

State Representative Jamie Callender

House District 61

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Summary: Public Comment in support of the project from State Representative Jamie Callender electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing