



October 11, 2023

Michigan House Energy, Communications and Technology Committee
Room 519, House Office Building
124 N Capitol Ave
Lansing MI, 48933

Dear Chair Scott and members of the Committee:

The American Clean Power Association (ACP), Clean Grid Alliance (CGA), Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), and Advanced Energy United (United) appreciate the opportunity to comment on HB 5120 – HB 5123, which creates a new voluntary permitting process for certain large renewable energy and energy storage facilities.

ACP is a national trade association representing a broad range of businesses in clean energy, including wind energy, solar energy, energy storage, and transmission line developers.

CGA is a nonprofit organization that works across nine states in the upper Midwest, including Michigan. CGA's membership consists of wind and solar developers, manufacturers, and nonprofit clean energy advocacy organizations. CGA's goal is to advance renewable energy development opportunities across the region.

SEIA is the national trade association for the U.S. solar and storage industry. SEIA works with its 1,200 member companies to fight for policies that create jobs in every community and shape fair market rules that promote competition and the growth reliable, low-cost solar power.

Advanced Energy United is a national trade association representing the broad range of technologies and services in the clean energy industry, from electric vehicle manufacturers to large-scale renewable and energy storage developers to rooftop solar providers. United is committed to achieving a fully decarbonized economy while achieving an affordable, reliable, and resilient energy system.

ACP, CGA, SEIA, and United would like to express our support for this package of bills. These bills would reform the permitting process by allowing the Public Service Commission to permit clean energy projects that have a statewide significance. The current township level approach to permitting has created an inconsistent and unpredictable landscape for clean energy deployment.



Restrictive ordinances and moratoria create barriers to developing renewable energy projects. As it currently stands, more than 40 Michigan counties and townships have restrictive ordinances that make it very difficult to site projects and limits private landowners ability to utilize their land as they see fit.

Reforming the siting and permitting process will eliminate the current patchwork to permitting, ensure landowners have the opportunity to host projects, create jobs, and unlock billions of investment across the state.

As the upper Midwest transitions away from traditional power generation towards clean energy alternatives, establishing a predictable siting and permitting process in Michigan for renewable energy facilities will pave the way for future development and economic opportunities across the state.

ACP, CGA SEIA, and United appreciate the opportunity to comment on HB 5120 – HB 5123 and urge the committee to support passage of these bills.

Sincerely,

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