



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF OHIO**

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Testimony on SB289, COGENERATION TECHNOLOGY  
Before the Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee  
Presented by Alan R. Rosenfield, ScD, FASM  
on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Ohio  
Feb. 15, 2012

The League of Women Voters of Ohio supports the use of a variety of energy sources, with emphasis on conserving energy. Producing electricity by harnessing the energy contained in blast-furnace flue gasses fits this description. However, we have concerns about the expansion of the definition of “renewable energy” contained in SB289. Therefore, we recommend that the blast-furnace flue-gas technology be classified as “advanced energy”.

The technologies currently classified as “renewable” include many that are now being employed successfully to satisfy Am. Sub 127-SB 221, such as wind, solar, and hydroelectric. In contrast, prospects for some of the “advanced energy” technologies included in Am. Sub SB 221 have dimmed considerably in the past few years. Among these technologies, the costs of nuclear energy have escalated so rapidly that it is losing any competitive advantage that it once may have had. Carbon sequestration does not appear to be feasible in the foreseeable future. And hydrogen fuel-cell technology needs enormous scaling-up to provide meaningful power to the grid. The addition of the use of blast-furnace gas for generating electricity to the list of allowed advanced-energy techniques would be very helpful.

If this change in definition is made, the League of Women Voters of Ohio would be pleased to endorse this legislation.

Thank you for your attention. I welcome your questions.

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