



April 22, 2025

Chair Wendzel and the House Energy Committee,

We write to you in opposition to House Bills 4027 and 4028. We urge you to vote NO on these bills because they will raise costs for electric utility customers, undermine Michiganders' property rights, and stifle the economic development which renewable energy is delivering to Michigan's communities.

Advanced Energy United is a national clean energy trade association that represents the full range of advanced energy technologies and services, both grid-scale and distributed. The businesses United represents are lowering consumer costs, creating thousands of new jobs, and driving innovation towards home-grown, efficient, and reliable energy in Michigan.

HBs 4027-28 allow a minority of local opposition to say what private landowners can do with their land and block renewable energy projects which lower electricity costs for everyone. Public Act 233 was enacted to address the challenges associated with siting renewable energy projects, which are essential for providing low-cost electricity, improving grid reliability, securing energy independence for Michigan. The Act establishes an efficient and predictable siting process for renewable energy developers through the Michigan Public Service Commission ("MPSC") which has historically had authority over siting of similar critical energy infrastructure, like pipelines and transmission lines.

While this process exists, renewable energy developers still largely prefer working directly with communities to foster buy-in and support economic development for host communities. The Act has brought many communities and renewable developers to the table, rather than allowing a minority of voices to impact projects which benefit the entire state. Following passage of Public Act 233, developers indicate they are ready to invest millions in Michigan's communities. By proposing to repeal the Act, HBs 4027-28 create delays and uncertainties that can increase project costs, increase timelines, or prevent projects altogether—raising electricity costs for everyone and harming communities across the state.

Upending current law will increase costs for consumers because both Consumers Energy and DTE Electric are required to submit Integrated Resources Plans ("IRPs") to the MPSC which are

designed to select low-cost supply resources for meeting demand. In the latest approved IRPs, both utilities rely heavily on the ability to build renewable energy projects.

**Consumers Energy (Case No. U-21090):** Consumers Energy's IRP, approved in 2022, includes plans to add approximately 8,000 MW of solar generation by 2040. The expansion is aimed at replacing retiring coal-fired plants and meeting future energy demands cost-effectively.

**DTE Electric (Case No. U-21193):** DTE's IRP, also approved in 2023, outlines the addition of over 15,000 MW of solar and wind energy generation in Michigan, with annual targets of 600 MW in 2026-2028 and 1,000 MW in 2029-2030.

The repeal of Public Act 233 would undermine the strategic efforts outlined in Michigan's IRPs to provide affordable and reliable electricity through the integration of renewable energy sources. Maintaining an efficient siting process through the MPSC prevents a minority of local opposition from stifling development of projects which the utilities' own IRPs have determined are the lowest-cost option for meeting demand. Public Act 233 ensures that utilities can meet their planned resource additions without unnecessary financial burdens.

We strongly recommend that the committee oppose HB 4027 and HB 4028 to preserve the economic advantages of renewable energy resources and a streamlined permitting process. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony and for your consideration.

Regards,

**Samarth Medakkar, Policy Principal**  
Advanced Energy United

