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**Testimony before the PA House Republican Environmental Resources and Energy Committee**  
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**“Stopping New Energy Taxes”**

Good morning, honorable members of the House Republican Environmental Resources and Energy Committee. My name is Clayton Bubeck, and I am President and Chief Executive Officer for RETTEW, a group of employee-owned companies that provide engineering and construction services to industrial, commercial, institutional, public, and governmental clients across Pennsylvania. I am proud to lead over 300 employee-owners who serve the needs of our clientele in Pennsylvania and beyond, with our corporate headquarters located in Lancaster, PA.

As a brief background on RETTEW and energy in the Commonwealth, RETTEW works in the upstream oil and gas industry and has assisted in the permitting for the development of thousands of wells. We’ve designed thousands of miles of midstream pipeline. We work in the downstream utility segment of both natural gas and electric, and we’ve worked for several coal mining operations. Although we work heavily in the carbon-based fuels market, we have expertise in the renewables market. RETTEW is listed by Solar Magazine as one of the top 200 solar contractors in the United States. We’ve designed / built over 70% of the floating solar megawatts currently in operation in North America. Additionally, we’ve designed / built two of the largest battery energy storage systems (20 MW/20 MWH) in the PJM services area, and we are recognized as one of the top designers of renewable natural gas facilities. We strongly believe in an “All of the Above” mentality when it comes to energy in the United States and the Commonwealth.

I speak today on behalf of our clientele who are facing increasing costs and restrictions due to the burgeoning needs of our electrical utilities, many of whom are also our clients. With electrical demand soaring from decarbonization efforts, electric vehicles, artificial intelligence, and data centers, Pennsylvania’s electrical generation and transmission infrastructure is under technical and cost pressures. These pressures manifest as increased costs to our customers, which ultimately transfer to Pennsylvania’s residents through higher costs for goods and services. With retirements of traditional thermal generation such as coal, Pennsylvania is in a time of energy transition, requiring new generation from natural gas, renewables, and nuclear that will need to come online at a challenging pace. The recent PJM capacity auction, along with the subsequent rate caps negotiated by our Governor, only highlights the cost challenges that Pennsylvania residents will face in the coming years. PJM itself is predicting a generation shortfall in the near term, with increasing costs further driving energy affordability away from our client’s needs.

Beyond costs, energy availability and reliability concerns are starting to manifest. One of our clients recently had to invest in their own renewables and natural gas generation to allow for the expansion and growth of their food production facilities. The energy availability for a factory expansion was years away,

with the utility understandably concerned that their situation could only become more challenging with sustained growth in the region. We want to see Pennsylvania's businesses and communities thrive, growing and expanding to serve not only Pennsylvania but also our global partners. Pennsylvania has always provided energy and productivity beyond our state's footprint, and the costs and reliability risks to our electrical grid jeopardize our role and may deter development in our communities.

Our clients support and desire clean and reliable energy supplies. Unfortunately, while well-intended, programs such as the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), PACER, and PRESS will add costly and burdensome regulations to our transitional energy programs. These costs will further decrease reliability through generation retirements, deter investment in new generation, and increase the operational costs of current generation assets. These costs will be passed to our clients and communities, reducing the Commonwealth's competitiveness, and further driving inflationary costs.

Regulating complex markets like the electrical generation and transmission grid is a challenging task, requiring balance and moderation to meet both short- and long-term goals. As Pennsylvania adjusts to the new reality of increasing demand and declining generation capacity, we believe that now is not the time to introduce further challenges such as RGGI, PACER, and PRESS. As Pennsylvania's policy makers and elected officials help lead our energy growth and transition, we ask that you consider the cost and reliability impacts of new regulation, and hopefully, agree with our customers that stabilizing the current market is a key goal for Pennsylvania's energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your Committee today. I welcome the chance to collaborate on our collective energy future.