



## **Ohioans Against Corporate Bailouts Releases EPA Data Proving H.B. 6 Carbon Emissions Overwhelm Any Gain by Nuclear Plants**

**Actual CO2 Emissions from EPA Show “Ohio Clean Air Program” in  
HB 6 Legislation Lies to Ohio Voters**

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(Columbus, October 7, 2019) Ohioans Against Corporate Bailouts today released data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency showing that carbon dioxide emissions from the three coal plants that benefit from HB 6 exceed by more than two times the carbon offset from the two nuclear plants that ratepayers are being forced to subsidize under the law.

“This information from the EPA shows once again how HB 6 supporters lied to Ohioans by claiming the bill was about clean air when it’s really just a bailout for a bankrupt company that doesn’t reduce carbon emissions,” said Gene Pierce, spokesman for the coalition.

From the moment that HB 6 was [filed last spring](#), supporters of the ratepayer bailout for the Perry and Davis-Besse nuclear plants owned by FirstEnergy Solutions stated the plants must be subsidized and saved because they don’t emit carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change.

However, under HB 6, two money losing coal plants owned by [Ohio Valley Electric Corp](#), Clifty Creek in Indiana and Kyger Creek in Ohio, were added to also receive direct subsidies. A third coal plant set for retirement, the W.H. Sammis plant in Ohio, indirectly [got a boost from HB 6](#) when owner FirstEnergy Solutions [announced](#) that with the subsidies approved for its nuclear plants, it would [keep Sammis open](#), too.

The continued operation of the three coal plants means their carbon dioxide emissions sharply exceed any reduced by Perry and Davis-Besse.

In [testimony](#) before the Ohio House of Representatives in April, FirstEnergy Solutions said the nuclear plants offset 9,300,000 metric tons of CO2 annually or the equivalent of 10,250,000 short tons.

But according to data available to the public from the U.S. [EPA's Air Markets Program](#), carbon dioxide emissions from Kyger Creek, Clifty Creek and Sammis coal plants averaged 20,693,957 short tons annually from 2014 through 2018.

| <b>Sum of CO2 (short tons)</b> |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                | <b>2014</b>       | <b>2015</b>       | <b>2016</b>       | <b>2017</b>       | <b>2018</b>       |
| Clifty Creek                   | 6,523,414         | 5,827,720         | 5,736,134         | 6,817,684         | 7,027,325         |
| Kyger Creek                    | 5,854,882         | 4,108,973         | 5,608,699         | 6,468,438         | 6,518,189         |
| W H Sammis                     | 12,309,325        | 9,334,723         | 8,562,205         | 7,091,561         | 5,680,516         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>             | <b>24,687,622</b> | <b>19,271,416</b> | <b>19,907,038</b> | <b>20,377,683</b> | <b>19,226,029</b> |

Source: U.S. EPA

The excess balance of about 10,444,000 short tons of carbon emitted among the plants benefitting under HB 6 is [equivalent](#) to the carbon emissions of more than 2,000,000 passenger vehicles on Ohio's roads for one year.

“HB 6 was a major setback for Ohio because it bails out dirty coal plants and guts our clean energy standards, which will result in more pollution,” said Heather Taylor-Miesle, executive director of the Ohio Environmental Council.

“In spite of H.B. 6 supporters’ false claims, HB 6 fails to reduce carbon pollution,” Taylor-Miesle added, “so its repeal is necessary to protect our health, environment, and jobs - and is an essential first step in putting our state back on a path to climate action,”

“Climate change is a global crisis and Ohio must do its part to mitigate the impacts so that current and future generations can live in a healthy state. To do that, we need investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency programs that will work to act on climate and support careers for Ohioans,” Taylor-Miesle concluded.

Even if the six solar plants [subsidized under HB 6](#) are eventually built, their carbon offset wouldn’t dramatically reduce the balance of carbon emissions supported under the bill.

Pierce added, “This data proves that HB 6 is built on foundation of lies. This isn’t about reducing carbon emissions or what’s better for Ohio’s environment, but corporate greed. All Ohio voters should be outraged and support the petition effort to overturn this law.”

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Ohioans Against Corporate Bailouts needs to file 265,744 signatures by October 21 to make the November 2020 Ohio statewide ballot.

Ohioans Against Corporate Bailouts is a coalition of consumer, business and environmental advocates opposed to House Bill 6's controversial billion dollar bailout and gutting of Ohio's renewable energy standards.

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