



# POWER UP TEXAS

## 88<sup>TH</sup> TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION POLICY PRIORITIES

### ENCOURAGING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In many cases, **renewable energy investments are the #1 taxpayers in rural Texas counties**, generating much-needed revenue for schools and local government services.

The House Ways and Means Committee will soon consider **House Bill 5**, a bill that will replace one of the most effective programs in bringing tax revenue and job creation opportunities to our state.

#### **House Bill 5 should be:**

- technology agnostic;
- based on overall economic impact and the needs of the partnering community; and
- free of any unnecessary government mandates on program participants.

*To keep homegrown, clean energy investments growing and generating tax revenue across Texas, we must urge lawmakers to include renewables as an eligible participant in HB 5 so that as many Texas communities as possible have the ability to attract large-scale capital investment.*

### PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGY EXPANSION

**Senate Bill 624** grows the size of government in Texas by creating a renewable energy permitting regime. This legislation would require the permitting of existing and new projects, placing investments at risk and jeopardizing local school districts, their property tax bases, and the financial commitments districts have made in anticipation of revenue from wind and solar energy projects. **No other type of energy generation is included in the proposal**, despite the fact that renewable energy power plants already must post financial assurance and fully fund the requirement in state law to decommission their facilities.

#### **Senate Bill 624:**

- Makes electricity more expensive
- Violates private property rights
- Jeopardizes reliability
- Expands government regulation

*SB 624 is designed to harass and impede renewable energy development but instead punishes rural landowners and communities, increases electric bills for all Texans, and places undue power in the hands of unelected bureaucrats. We must encourage our Legislature to reject this legislation!*

### ENHANCING TRANSMISSION TO INCREASE GRID RELIABILITY

To keep up with increased demand, and to continue providing the lowest-cost generation to rate-payers, **Texas must improve its transmission planning processes** so that ERCOT is not regularly instructing power plants to reduce or halt output due to overloaded power lines.

As it stands today:

- Texas' current transmission infrastructure is deficient.
- Texas consumers are burdened with hidden costs associated with transmission constraints.
- ERCOT's current transmission planning process is antiquated.

*We must encourage our Legislature to enhance the grid's reliability by improving our state's transmission processes and infrastructure!*

