

## WHY IS SENATE BILL 624 BAD FOR TEXAS?

**Senate Bill 624** would require a permit for new clean energy projects, as well as upgrades to existing 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 power generation is included in the proposal**, despite the fact that clean energy projects already face stringent, mandatory decommissioning requirements in state law that require posting of financial surety, in a manner acceptable to the landowner, to fund project removal costs.

*If **Senate Bill 624** were to pass, our state's power generation fleet will be put at risk, taking the most affordable sources of predictable power off the grid.*

### **Senate Bill 624:**

#### **Makes electricity costs higher for Texas consumers**

SB 624 will make the lowest-cost sources of power more expensive. **That increase in the cost of power will ultimately be paid by consumers who saved more than \$11 billion in 2022 due to renewable energy but are still struggling to pay skyrocketing electric bills.**

#### **Violates Texas' coveted private property rights**

Texas landowners will have their private property rights trampled by **neighbors who would be able to determine what they can and cannot do with their private property.** This first step to undermine energy development rights will lead to threats on oil and gas, agricultural, and manufacturing production.

#### **Threatens grid reliability**

SB 624 includes arduous requirements that are designed to put wind and solar power plants at a disadvantage during the permitting process. Many plants will be unable to repower or firm with new technology, and many of those currently in development will never become operational. **All outcomes lead to fewer megawatts and an increased likelihood of power outages.** Texas simply cannot afford to lose a single megawatt of power, and passing this bill would cause a reliability catastrophe like none the state has seen before.

#### **Expands government regulation**

SB 624 neglects the pro-business foundation that the Texas Miracle was built upon. It massively expands the scope and duties of ill-equipped, understaffed state agencies in issuing the authority to request superfluous information, determine locational boundaries of clean energy facilities, and dictate how a project should maximize energy output. **Over-burdensome, unnecessary, and duplicative regulation will halt investment and innovation, squash competition, and raise prices for Texas consumers and industry.**

***SB 624 will cost Texas consumers, grow the size of government while shrinking our property rights, raise taxes, and devastate rural communities. We must encourage the Legislature to reject policy that impedes renewable energy expansion in Texas!***