



Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Consumer Affairs Committee

March 16, 2020

Testimony of Clearway Energy Group on House Bills 531 and 1970

Dear Chairman Roae, Chairman Matzie, Members of the Committee and Staff:

Clearway Energy Group submits this testimony in strong support of House Bill 531, which will significantly expand consumer access to solar energy, and result in billions of dollars of private investment in new energy infrastructure in the Commonwealth. Clearway is one of the largest renewable energy companies in the U.S., with 4.3 GW of solar and wind assets and a 9 GW development pipeline nationwide.

Community solar can be a bright spot in the PA economy, infusing towns across the Commonwealth with investments in jobs, local engineering and construction firms, and property tax revenues. In a rapidly changing economy, solar offers huge potential for economic growth and innovation. Clearway alone has invested over \$1.5 billion in community solar infrastructure across New York, Massachusetts, Illinois, Colorado and Minnesota. We look forward to the opportunity to make similar investments in Pennsylvania and help upgrade the Commonwealth's energy system for the 21st century.

Based on proposals from numerous stakeholders, including HB 1970, it's clear that key stakeholders in Pennsylvania agree the Commonwealth should pursue more local, community solar development.

HB 531, not HB 1970, is the way to deliver cost-effective local solar development at scale, and make a meaningful difference in PA's economy and electric system.

HB 531 will ensure community solar development and consumer access in all utility territories; HB 1970 will not. HB 531 will attract hundreds of millions of dollars in investment in the Commonwealth in its first year alone; HB 1970 will not. HB 531 will allow hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians the opportunity to directly participate in local community solar farms and save money on their electric bills; whereas HB 1970 would require customers to pay a premium for solar and would likely limit access to only a very small set of customers.

Clearway urges the Committee to support HB 531, to give consumers more control over their energy choices, and help drive cleantech investment in both rural and urban communities throughout the Keystone State.

We would be happy to discuss these issues further with you or your staff.

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