



## Ohio Conservative Energy Forum Statement of Principles

*What is a conservative after all but one who conserves, one who is committed to protecting and holding close the things by which we live ... And we want to protect and conserve the land on which we live – our countryside, our rivers and mountains, our plains and meadows and forests. This is our patrimony. This is what we leave to our children. And our great moral responsibility is to leave it to them either as we found it or better than we found it.*

Ronald Reagan, June 19, 1984

Dedication Ceremonies for the New Building of the National Geographic Society

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Historically, conservatives have led our country's efforts to protect our natural resources. Conservatives conserve. When it comes to our nation's energy future, however, we've allowed the conversation to be dominated by the left. Conservatives have real-world solutions to our energy challenges and contributions to make to the policy debate. It's time we seize the opportunity before us and once again take the lead, recognizing that:

From a **faith perspective**: We are convinced that we can build an independent and diverse energy future and a stronger economy, while also fulfilling our mandate to take care of God's creation in a responsible manner.

From an **economic perspective**: Ohio is among the top 10 states in total energy consumption. To be competitive in the modern economy, Ohio must continue to attract and retain high-growth businesses such as advanced manufacturing and large data centers. Homegrown energy keeps money and jobs in our state and creates new opportunities for economic development. Advanced energy businesses employ more than 25,000 Ohioans, and contribute billions of dollars annually to our economy. Ohio is poised to be a leader in a rapidly growing multi-billion dollar global advanced energy market.

From a **national security perspective**: American energy independence, including diversifying our energy sources, reducing our energy use, pursuing and encouraging new technologies, developing the country's abundant supply of natural gas, and moving to cleaner forms of energy, will help make America more secure.

From a **public policy perspective**: Governor Kasich and the legislature are writing the next chapter of our state's energy policy right now. Conservatives need to speak up and participate in local, state, and federal energy policy deliberations.

From a **political perspective**: Survey research shows all voters – conservatives and liberals, Democrats and Republicans – see clean, efficient energy as part of America's future. There is great support among all voters – particularly younger conservative voters – for pursuing advanced, clean, and cost-efficient energy solutions as part of America's energy future. Republicans and conservatives must lead on these issues if we want to grow our base and be relevant to future generations of voters.

The goal of the Ohio Conservative Energy Forum is to provide a vehicle for individuals, organizations, and businesses to join the conservative conversation about Ohio's energy future. We believe that an energy policy that supports a diverse energy mix must be pursued, lowering costs by increasing our commitment to developing homegrown cleaner energy resources, expanding energy efficiency, and pursuing and encouraging new technologies.

By signing this Statement of Principles, I concur with the above-stated values and principles, and agree to participate in the Ohio Conservative Energy Forum to engage conservatives across the state in this conversation and influence energy policy at the local, state, and national levels.

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Signature

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Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization (Optional)

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Date

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Email