SB 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.

**WHY IS SB 624 BAD FOR TEXAS?**

- **Makes electricity more expensive**

  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 private property rights**

  SB 624 is a major overreach of government, as it places bureaucrats in a position to subjectively eliminate private property rights that are sacrosanct to Texans. Every industry could be targeted if the Legislature sets the precedent that complaints against the aesthetics of a development can dictate the use of private property.

  Wind and solar projects are developed entirely through voluntary agreements with private landowners and are financed by private investors. This is different from some other developments which wield the power of eminent domain and recoup costs via ratepayers with a regulated rate of return.

- **Jeopardizes 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, while others may never become operational due to the outlandish setback provision that prohibits wind development within 3,000 feet of any neighboring land. All outcomes lead to fewer megawatts and an increased likelihood of power outages.

- **Expands government regulation**

  SB 624 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.

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.

SB 624 is designed to harass and impede energy development. It punishes rural landowners and the communities where they reside, increases electric bills for all Texans, and places undue power in the hands of unelected bureaucrats.

**REJECT SB 624!**