39TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PAULINE WENDZEL
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHONE: (517) 373-1799
FAX: (517) 373-8361
PaulineWendzel@house.mi.gov
www.RepWendzel.com

May 25, 2023

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of the State of Michigan
PO Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor:

As members of Michigan's newly formed bipartisan, bicameral Nuclear Caucus, we are writing to express our appreciation for your support of PA 218 of 2022. We're confident that at the conclusion of the study, the report will confirm what our members know to be true – that nuclear power is safe, carbon-free, reliable, and should be a prominent fixture in Michigan's energy future.

We also are writing to express our appreciation in your leadership and assure you of our full support and partnership as your administration continues negotiating with our Federal partners, Holtec, and other stakeholders regarding the re-opening of the Palisades Nuclear Power Plant.

At full capacity, this plant provided over 800-megawatts of carbon free, baseload electricity that powered over half a million Michigan homes. Furthermore, it employed over 600 hardworking people in good, high-paying careers, making a substantial positive economic impact on the regional economy. In addition, Palisade's annual tax contributions of over $10 million have been crucial in supporting essential public services and the local schools of a small majority-minority community on the banks of Lake Michigan.

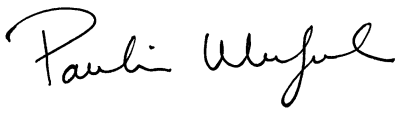
Since the closure of Palisades, the effects have been felt not only in Covert but throughout the entire Southwest Michigan region and the state as a whole. However, amidst these challenges lies a unique bipartisan opportunity waiting to be seized. Michigan has always been a hub of technological innovation, from the automotive industry's pioneering efforts in Detroit to our leadership in electric and autonomous vehicle revolution. Now, we have the chance to make history by successfully re-powering a non-operational nuclear power plant, becoming the first state in American history to accomplish such a feat.

The successful re-powering of Palisades would immediately provide safe, carbon-free, and reliable energy to a grid that desperately needs more baseload generation. Palisades would be a successful

model whose re-opening would positively reverberate around the world, fueled by Michigan's unwavering grit, innovation, and determination.

As your administration continues its work, please don't hesitate to use us, your legislative partners, as a valuable resource. We stand ready, willing, and able, to provide our support, expertise, and collaboration to shape not only Michigan's energy future, but the world's. Working together, we can lay the foundation for a sustainable and prosperous Michigan and cement our state's place in American history.

Sincerely,



Pauline Wendzel
State Representative
39th House District



Joey Andrews
State Representative
38th House District



Helena Scott
State Representative
7th House District



Sean McCann
State Senator
19th Senate District



Dan Lauwers
State Senator
25th Senate District



Pat Outman
State Representative
91st House District



Douglas Wozniak
State Representative
59th House District



Bill G. Schuette
State Representative
95th House District



Kathy Schmaltz
State Representative
46th House District



Graham Filler
State Representative
93rd House District



Tom Kunse
State Representative
100th House District



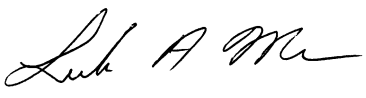
Bradley Slagh
State Representative
85th House District



Mike McFall
State Representative
8th House District



Jamie Greene
State Representative
65th House District



Luke Meerman
State Representative
89th House District