

# CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Please provide the requested contact information where indicated below. **Please return your completed questionnaire no later than June 22, 2018.**



**PARTY:** \_\_Republican\_\_\_\_\_

**ELECTIVE OFFICE:** State House

**NAME:** Andrea Schroeder

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**DISTRICT:** 43

**EMAIL:** [REDACTED]

AMP is a non-partisan coalition of more than 30,000 Michiganders who know that reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity is vital to Michigan's future. We are dedicated to helping Michigan families and businesses stay informed and involved in the energy debates that affect us all.

AMP is inviting all candidates for state legislative office in the 2018 elections to complete the following questionnaire to help our members better understand where their candidates stand on key energy issues facing our state. **Please feel free to respond directly in this document and return it to us by email at [AMPVotes@AllianceforMichiganPower.com](mailto:AMPVotes@AllianceforMichiganPower.com), or return it by mail to AMP, 2145 Commons Parkway, Okemos, MI 48864.** You should also feel free to use more than the space allotted for your full answers. (If you have received a printed copy of the questionnaire and would prefer an electronic copy, please email us at the address above, and we will provide the questionnaire electronically.)

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1. In 2016, the Michigan legislature passed a new comprehensive energy law (updates to Public Acts 341 and 342) that established a framework to help energy providers plan for our state's energy future. The 2016 plan included provisions to keep electricity reliable for all Michigan consumers, increase renewable energy from 10% to 15% of our state's total energy portfolio, and encourage greater energy efficiency. What are your views on this law?

I support the 2016 energy law and believes it helps to keep Michigan's energy supply sound and safe.

2. The 2016 energy law also moved Michigan to using Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs). IRPs centralize and standardize planning for our electric system using a transparent process

overseen by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC). The IRP process is designed to ensure investments in our electric system achieve our goals of affordability, reliability, and sustainability in the most balanced way possible. Do you think IRPs provide a good framework to support Michigan's energy needs moving forward? (Please circle your answer below and explain why you do or don't support the IRP process for Michigan.)

a. **Yes.** (Please explain.) The IRP process requires both long- and short- term planning to provide a roadmap to future energy needs, while still allowing flexibility to adapt as needed.

b. No. (Please explain.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 3.** Michigan consumers pay for electricity based on how much energy they use and when they use it (i.e., electricity consumed during “peak hours” costs more than electricity consumed during “non-peak hours”). This approach minimizes the subsidizing of electricity costs for one consumer by other consumers. Do you believe this is the right way to establish consumer costs? Are there any instances in which you would support subsidies for some types of energy or some types of consumers?

Yes, I support this approach. I would need to learn about any specific instances or circumstances to consider as/if they arise.

- 4.** Michigan's energy infrastructure is aging and requires new investments to maintain safe and reliable service. Technologies like smart meters and grid sensors are making our energy grid more efficient and resilient. How important do you believe it is for Michigan to invest in its energy infrastructure?

A stable, efficient energy infrastructure is critical to Michigan consumers and businesses. Investment in our power grid will keep it secure.

- 5.** Recently, the Michigan Public Service Commission approved a new policy for rooftop solar users. This new policy allows energy providers to recoup the costs associated with maintaining the energy grid from these customers who use the grid both to feed excess electricity back into the grid and to access electricity from the grid when their solar panels are not producing enough energy. Up until now, rooftop solar users have been able to avoid paying these costs. What are your views on this new policy?

I think it's appropriate for anyone using the electric grid to share the costs of use, maintenance, and upgrades.

- 6.** Michigan is transitioning from electricity predominantly generated from coal to a more diverse energy mix that also includes natural gas; renewables like solar, wind, and hydropower; and nuclear. Do you support this “all-of-the-above” energy strategy? Why or why not?

a. **Yes.** (Please explain.) A multi-pronged energy strategy maximizes our power resources and allows for implementation of advances in technology that can make us more energy efficient.

b. No. (Please explain.) \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

- 7.** Do you believe Michigan's energy mix should be mandated by law, or should energy providers have more flexibility to balance environmental concerns with affordability, reliability, and the rapid pace of technology advances in the energy sector?

Environmental concerns and some consumer flexibility should be considerations, while still protecting the investments in reliability and energy technology advancements.

- 8.** What else would you like the AMP community to know about your views on Michigan energy and our state's energy future?

As a strategic planning consultant by profession, I understand the value of a long-term focus on stable and accessible energy sources. Flexibility and adaptability are hallmarks of effective planning and I support policies that include these components.