



June 11, 2024

Senator Shane Wilkin
Chair, Ohio Sunset Review Committee
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Wilkin,

It has come to my attention that the Engineering Experiment Station Advisory Committee found in O.R.C. 3335.27 has come before the Sunset Review Committee for review and evaluation. I would like to provide background information and inform the committee that The Ohio State University is not seeking reauthorization of the committee.

The O.R.C. established this committee to advise the director of the Engineering Experiment Station, which is also created within state law. Over the years, the various research functions assigned to the station in O.R.C. 3335.26, "to make technical investigations and to supply engineering data which will tend to increase the economy, efficiency, and safety of the manufacturing, mineral, transportation, and other engineering and industrial enterprises of the state" have been distributed, assigned, or subsumed by various departments, centers, institutes, and programs within the College of Engineering at Ohio State.

While the purpose of the experiment station continues within the work of the college, the committee itself has not been active for more than twelve years. Along with the functions of the experiment station being redeployed to other units within the college, so too have the responsibilities of the Advisory Committee. The O.R.C. says the committee would be responsible to "select suitable subjects for investigation, apportion the available funds, and...may provide for the dissemination of the results to the people of the state." These activities and the decision-making processes that they require currently belong with the units within the college doing this work. At the college level and at lower department and unit levels, the College of Engineering engages many external partners to seek advice from many different stakeholders such as industry, other academic institutions, local, state, and federal government, as well as alumni.

To this end, we respectfully notify the committee that we are not seeking reauthorization of the committee.

We appreciate your work and your attention to this matter. If you have any additional questions or need more information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Ayanna Howard, PhD
Dean, College of Engineering
Monte Ahuja Endowed Dean's Chair