



FILE

CAMBRIDGE • GUERNSEY COUNTY
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION

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INVESTIGATION AND ADJUDICATION
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

September 29, 2008

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter in support of American Electric Power's (AEP) Electric Security Plan filing referenced in Docket Numbers 08-917-EL-SSO and 08-918-EL-SSO. The partnership which has long existed between our local economic development agencies and AEP has been essential in our efforts to bring jobs to our area. Through grant opportunities and some direct economic development contributions, AEP has facilitated our ability to market our area, conduct feasibility studies, and engage in site preparation activities. Economic development officials from AEP have been exceptional consultants, always available for providing insightful information. They have advised our office on site selection, regional collaboration, organization of our economic development programs, and of course, the availability of electric assets for proposed projects.

Representing a relatively small metropolitan area in Appalachia, we often rely on every available asset to provide financial or consultation assistance both for general planning and for individual projects. AEP's assistance has been an integral part of this support system. They are highly valued partners in our activities, and their impaired ability to remain as such would certainly be a blow to our efforts. We wholeheartedly support the favorable consideration of this filing.

Respectfully,

Norm Blanchard
Economic Development Director

NB/ng

cc: Chuck Corbitt, AEP

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