MEDINAMENT

October 13, 2008

FILE

Governor Strickland Riffe Center, 30th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215-6108

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Dear Governor Strickland,

I understand that AEP Ohio is petitioning the PUCO to allow a phased-in approach to rate increases over the next few years to permit this vital utility to expand, improve, and help to stimulate economic development efforts in Ohio. Their well reasoned and reasonable ESP Filing is fully explained in Docket Numbers Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO and Case No. 08-918-EL-SSO.

In these trying economic times, who looks forward to paying a high electric bill? I would venture to guess that no one does, but these times are economically challenging for businesses, too, including AEP Ohio, perhaps especially because they have not had a fuel adjustment since 1999. While I am as budget conscious as the next person, I also understand the need for their request. As John F. Kennedy was fond of saying, "If you raise the level of the harbor, all of the boats also rise." Allowing AEP Ohio to phase in their rate increase will provide much needed funding for AEP Ohio to raise the level of Ohio's economic harbor by increasing levels of funding for local economic development organizations and providing financial assistance for projects that create and retain jobs. Their demonstrated willingness to work with interveners and stakeholders throughout the ESP process to address unique economic development needs for Ohio speaks well of their eagerness to bolster and foster economic opportunities.

I am especially pleased to see that AEP Ohio's \$75 million shareholder funded "Partnership with Ohio" proposal will assist low income customers along with these economic development efforts, and encourage energy efficiency and advanced technology development and deployment. By targeted energy efficiency programming, AEP Ohio will help all of us to be better consumers of electricity, both as individual customers and in new building programs. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards and Energy Star programming will be invaluable in aiding construction and renovation projects to be as energy efficient as possible.

Other important and innovative aspects of AEP Ohio's ESP that are of interest to me include their support for your renewable energy initiative and purchase of energy from renewable sources. I am intrigued by the "Green Pricing Option" that has been integrated into this ESP, as well.

Please consider supporting AEP Ohio's ESP plan, for the betterment of all of Ohio. Certainly raising utility bills will never be popular; however, I realize that the enormous cost of creating better, more reliable and more efficient electricity can be much more affordable when that cost is spread among the consumers of the electricity. I hope that you will work to raise Ohio's harbor so that all of the boats will rise, too.

Regards,

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