

## **Catholic Diocese of Columbus**

JOIN Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs 614-241-2530

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October 28, 2008

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

Re: Docket Numbers: Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO Case No. 08-918-EL-SSO

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of support to the "Partnership with Ohio" proposal. This proposal will assist our low income and vulnerable clients who come to our office seeking help with their utility bills.

In August, 2007, JOIN (Joint Organization for Inner City Needs) had 400 (four hundred) requests for utility assistance, and we were 70% (seventy) over budget.

In August, 2008, JOIN had 724 (seven hundred twenty four) requests and the need seems to be ever increasing.

JOIN could not maintain such a program without the assistance of AEP and the shareholder funded "Partnership with Ohio" proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Ruth Beckman

Ruth Beckman Director

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