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November 10, 2008

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

Dear Commission Members:

American Electric Power, which services most residences and businesses in Jackson Township, Stark County, has requested that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio approve increasing its electricity rates each of the next three years. The AEP rate increase proposal calls for a 15 percent residential rate increase in each of those three years, which, when compounded, will increase the electricity rates of Stark County residents by 52 percent by 2011. compounded rate of increase for large industrial customers would amount to a 62 percent increase. The AEP proposal does not cover any additional transmission cost increases, which may be requested separately. AEP also requests that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) authorize various riders and surcharges over and above the 15 percent annual increases for future cost recovery.

The Board of Trustees opposes this unreasonable rate increase because:

- 1. Many of our 42,000 residents have been already financially burdened due to the recent economic downturn. An increase in their utility bills will impose a further financial burden upon them.
- 2. The proposed excessive rate increase will negatively impact the Township's current and future businesses.
- 3. The proposed rate increase will increase the cost of the Board of Trustees AEP accounts by \$21,293 over the three year period.

We appreciate your consideration of our views and urge you to deny AEP's requested rate increase.

Sincerely,

John E. Pizzinal President

William M. Burger, Vice President

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