

FILE

ENERGY MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

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May 3, 2010

Dr. Alan Schriber, Ph.D.
Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 12th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

PUCO

2010 MAY -6 PM 5:13

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

RE: FirstEnergy ESP Case; PUCO Case No. 10-0388-EL-SSO

Dear Chairman Schriber:

I am an energy management consultant representing four Saint Gobain Companies in Northern Ohio: SG Norpro in Stow; SGPPL in Akron and Ravenna; SG Crystals in Newbury and Hiram; and SG CertainTeed in Milan. These four companies currently employ several hundred people at these Ohio facilities.

We have been following the FirstEnergy electric security plan ("ESP") case closely, and even closer than normal due to the current economic conditions which have hit us (and a lot of other Ohioans) particularly hard.

I am writing on behalf of these companies to express my concerns about your announcement on April 29, 2010 regarding the ESP application and settlement filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") on March 23, 2010 by FirstEnergy. As you know, the settlement is supported by numerous parties having diverse interests including the Industrial Energy Users-Ohio ("IEU-Ohio"). The four companies I represent are each a member of IEU-Ohio. We have been following the ESP process which is connected to the Market Rate Offer ("MRO") process initiated last October and based on the current ESP which the PUCO approved about one year ago.

Our concern about your April 29th announcement is that it may be perceived as supporting claims that the parties who are not supporting the settlement are correct in alleging that they have not had adequate time to evaluate the proposal. At a time when it is critically important to do things to give citizens confidence that government can act timely and do so in the public interest, it would be unfortunate if the PUCO pays more attention to process concerns than the substantive issues that Ohio must identify and resolve.

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In this particular case, the ESP filing is the outgrowth of a PUCO Staff recommendation in the MRO proceeding which has been fully litigated and currently awaits a PUCO decision (a decision that will be late as I understand the requirements of Ohio law). Parties interested in this subject matter have had since October of 2009 to conduct discovery and prepare to advocate on behalf of their particular interest. It is misleading to suggest that the ESP process began on March 23, 2010.

The same interests that protested the PUCO's efforts to promote the use of rate stabilization plans prior to the passage of Amended Substitute Senate Bill 221 are now opposing the use of ESPs. As we understand it, the ESP settlement, if approved by the PUCO, includes both opportunities to take advantage of generation prices that are at historic lows and economic development and economic retention opportunities that would not otherwise be available.

I urge the PUCO to promptly act to take advantage of the historically low generation prices and the other economic development and retention opportunities not otherwise available by timely approving the comprehensive ESP settlement.

Please feel free to contact me at 330-499-3105 (or E-mail; bobwa8bcx@neo.rr.com) if I can provide you with additional information. I thank you, in advance, for your attention and consideration.

Respectfully yours,

 *per email authorization*

Robert J. Bohland, CMfgE

cc: Commissioner Valerie A. Lemmie
Commissioner Paul A. Centolella
Commissioner Cheryl Roberto
Commissioner Steven D. Lesser
Beth Trombold, PUCO Legislative Liaison
Governor Ted Strickland
Senator Bill Harris, Senate President
Senator Tom Sawyer
Senator Kirk Schuring
Representative Armond Budish, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives
Representative Stephen Dyer
Representative Todd Snitchler
Representative Scott Oelslager