

TUSCARAWAŞ

Community Improvement Corporation

June 6, 2011

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

RE: AEP Ohio ESP - Case Nos. 11-346-EL-SSO & 11-348-EL-SSO

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

The Community Improvement Corporation of Tuscarawas County is charged within the mission of economic and community development for the entire County. The majority of the CIC's membership derives from the business community but also is represented by local elected officials from throughout the County.

Over the past few years the CIC has been heavily engaged in the development of a high tech research and technology park in the New Philadelphia area. AEP is the electricity provider to this Park and also provides the cabling for broadband services. Throughout this development process AEP has been an excellent partner in this community-wide effort to improve the economy of the region. Through AEP's provision of technical assistance, contract services and construction, and even marketing support the Tuscarawas Regional Technology Park has become a reality and expects to provide opportunities for entrepreneurs and high tech company development in the Tuscarawas Valley region for years to come.

We have additionally seen AEP's active, team-player role in other economic development organizations throughout the region from Chambers of Commerce to East Ohio Development Alliance, to the Ohio Economic Development Association, to our CIC and others throughout the region, and also business and industry retention and expansion committees; all in productive efforts to sustain and improve the economic climate of our region.

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Gary D. Liftle Executive Director

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