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11-0348-EL-SSO

Guernsey County Port Authority

806 Cochran Avenue • Cambridge, OH • 43725

August 11, 2011

Chairman Todd A. Snitchler
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

It is a pleasure to offer this correspondence in support of the Turning Point Solar project being considered for All lands in Noble County. The importance of this project in terms of job creation, the re-purposing of under-utilized land, and the transformational impact on the image of this region of Appalachia is immeasurable. We believe this project represents the catalyst for economic growth, not only in terms of employment directly related to construction and operation of the project, but also in the opportunities for suppliers, locally and throughout Ohio, to benefit financially from the support they could provide.

While the project will reside in Noble County, the effects of the development will have a major impact on all contiguous counties, including our own. For example, it fits perfectly with Zane State College's planned construction of a full-service college campus in Guernsey County, advancing their vision of creating a green, alternative energy corridor in this region of Ohio. It may also become the linchpin for moving forward a long-discussed plan for development of a mega industrial site in the project area. This plan is supported by a four-county coalition which has already funded a feasibility study to define project parameters.

Again, we enthusiastically support this initiative and would appreciate your favorable consideration of this project.

Respectfully,



Norm Blanchard
Executive Director

NB/ng

cc: Paul A. Centolella, Commissioner
Steven D. Lesser, Commissioner
Andre T. Porter, Commissioner
Cheryl Roberto, Commissioner
Eric Weldele, PUCO Chief of Staff

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