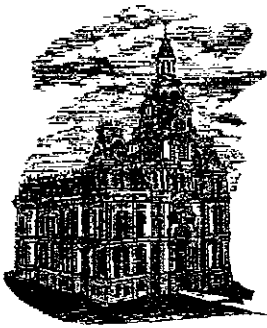


FILE

2



GARY D. ADAMS • CLAIR DUDGEON • THAD LICHTENSTEIGER

## VAN WERT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

114 EAST MAIN STREET • SUITE 200

VAN WERT, OHIO 45891-1725

PHONE: 419-238-6159 • FAX: 419-238-4528



LARRY E. CLOUSE  
CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

October 4, 2011

11-346-EL-SSD

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

During the summer, Van Wert County determined it wanted to place opt-out governmental aggregation on the November ballot for the voters' consideration. Furthermore our community decided to participate in the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) program. From our conversations with the CCAO, townships and cities in eight different counties representing 45,000 to 50,000 residential and small commercial consumers are on the November 1st ballot in AEP's distribution service territory. If the voters agree ratify opt-out governmental aggregation, our community would become part of the CCAO's current nine county program that already has 70,000 residential and small commercial consumers working together.

Yet despite the effort and the voters' expectations, provisions in AEP's Electricity Security Plan (ESP) proposed settlement effectively caps or limits shopping. Worse yet, the timing of the provisions are very likely to shut out our consumers from enjoying any savings. No settlement should eliminate the opportunity for governmental aggregation to capture savings for consumers after it has already been placed on the ballot.

The policy of this state to ensure effective competition in the provision of electric service - 4928.02 of the Ohio Revised Code - and it is the PUCO's mission to facilitate an environment that provides competitive choices. The reason our community's consumers have the potential for saving money on our electric generation supply is because a competitive generation supplier is competing for our business. It's apparent that the cap in AEP's proposed settlement is an attempt to prevent competitive suppliers from serving all the customers in their service area that want to save money.

Right now, hundreds of thousands of consumers living in hundreds of other Ohio communities are saving money through their aggregation programs. Why are we being penalized for being AEP customers? And why should AEP be able to dictate which groups of residents and businesses are allowed to save money on their electric bills?

Page 1 of 2

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.

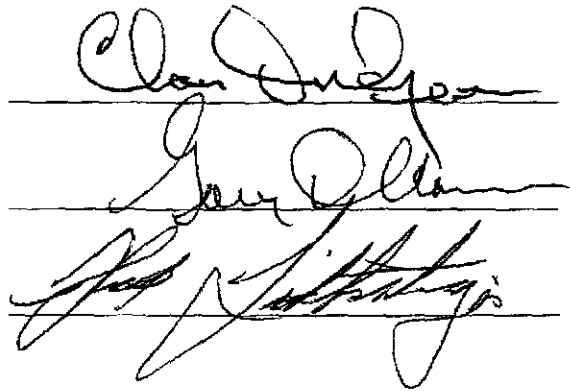
Technician Am Date Processed OCT 10 2011

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV  
2011 OCT 13 AM 11:14  
PUCO

If the PUCO approves the caps, the people and businesses in communities like Van Wert County will miss out on these savings. Other communities in Ohio have this opportunity to save and so should we.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF VAN WERT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Three handwritten signatures are written on three separate horizontal lines. The first signature is 'Alan Ingram', the second is 'Gary D. Dillman', and the third is 'Steve L. Lutzky'. Each signature is written in dark ink and is clearly legible.