

FILE

11-346-EL-550
11-348-EL-550



November 2, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

The purpose of this letter is to add support to the growing number of communities, organizations and individuals speaking out in favor of the AEP Ohio ESP Settlement Plan.

It is my understanding that AEP Ohio's settlement agreement does not cap shopping or the ability for customers to shop for a competitive retail electricity supplier, either through community aggregation or directly with a competitive retail electric supply (CRES) provider. The capability to shop has existed long before AEP introduced this Electric Security Plan (ESP) and is enhanced through the settlement.


AEP Ohio has been a strong community partner and works to help provide job growth and business retention in our community. With this settlement plan, AEP Ohio will contribute to the state's economic development efforts through the AEP Ohio Growth Fund. The fund is designed to significantly expand AEP Ohio's ongoing support of economic development to help attract new investment and associated job growth across Ohio.

The AEP Ohio's settlement agreement is a compromise that provides clarity and direction for the company and its customers, while providing much needed certainty around critical public policy. Overall, it is a plan that enhances retail shopping, promotes economic development, asset investment and an orderly transition to fully market - based generation rates.

Thank you for adding these sentiments to the docket.

Sincerely,

OHIO MID-EASTERN GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATION


Greg L. DiDonato
Executive Director

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