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PUCO

November 7, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

Please allow me to add my 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 with our organization to help provide a better quality of life to local residents. We look forward to continuing our community focused efforts with AEP Ohio through their Partnership With Ohio Fund, helping many of the less fortunate in our community.

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 Docket No. 11-0346-EL-SSO

Sincerely.

Guy M. Naples, MA **Executive Director**

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