11. 346. EL-SSC



Chairman Todd Snitchler 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio

11/8/11

To Chairman Snitchler:

As a local Cincinnati businessman the rising cost of utilities are vitally important to me. That is why I have been following the developing situation with your commission so closely. I have been vocal about my endorsement of energy plans that support greater competition in the energy marketplace AND keep prices at a reasonable level for families and businesses. I have owned my store for over seven years and have seen utility and tax rates year after year make it harder to do business in Ohio.

The current AEP plan, seems to be a wonderful start for Ohio businesses and that's why I am appealing to you and the commission to accept it. Greater competition in the energy marketplace is in everyone's best interests as it empowers companies and families to find the best prices on electricity. This is a great starting point and I am excited to see AEP's plan take effect and businesses start to see more competitive electricity prices. It is my hope that soon other territories will begin to have this same power. The lower my energy rates, the more money I will have to re-invest in my business and possibly higher more employees.

Please stick up for Ohio's businesses and families and increase competition in the electricity marketplace. It's not only good for businesses like mine, but will help benefit people across the state.

Thanks,

Nazih Shteiwi 5564 Colerain Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45223

2011 NOV 18 PH 12: 02

11.0346·EL-58

Mary Vollrath 2608 Harrison Avenue Cincinnati, OH 452211

Chairman Todd Snitchler 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio

11/8/11

Dear Chairman Todd Snitchler:

My name is Mary Vollrath and as both a resident of the Cincinnati area and a local business owner I am concerned about the rising cost of utilities in Ohio, especially electricity. I have heard about a possible settlement regarding AEP electricity and I wanted to add my two cents. My family has owned our business for over 60 years, and rising overhead is making it harder and harder to do business. I think that by allowing more competition in the electricity marketplace we can our state by lowering rates for businesses and families.

Competition is vitally important to the economy, and it ensures that we are getting a fair price from businesses. As I understand it, this plan will allow businesses like mine to enjoy even greater opportunity to choose the most affordable electricity company to do business with, while keeping electricity prices reasonable.

I think that this is a great step forward for Ohio businesses and hope that you approve of this very reasonable settlement.

Much appreciated,

Mary Vollrath

11-0346-91-3

November 8, 2011

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

Thanks for taking the time to read my letter.

My name is Fred and I am the owner of two small, local shops in the Cincinnati area, that employ a number of people from the community. I have worked hard to grow my businesses for over 15 years, and like every concerned business owner I have seen utility rates and tax hikes continually increase-hurting my ability to expand and create jobs.

I have been following the current situation in front of the Public Utilities Commission and I would like to write to extend my support to AEP's plan. Although I am not in AEP territory I support allowing greater competition in the marketplace, while keeping electricity at reasonable prices. Let's keep improving competition so we can cut costs for businesses and support our families. **Competition is Key.** 

The more competitive we can make our electricity prices; the more businesses we can attract to Ohio- while at the same time grow our local businesses and create jobs. I'd just like to extend my approval of the settlement as it works for our small businesses and families across the state.

Again, I appreciate you taking the time to read my letter. Keep making Ohio more competitive by giving businesses like mine more choices when it comes to electricity providers.

Regards,

Fred Asha 5463 Montgomery Road Cincinnati, OH 45212

Fred Ash



Jackson County Economic Development Board

November 8, 2011

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

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 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 Docket No. 11-0346-EL-SSO

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Jenvifer Jacobs, Executive Director Jackson County Economic Development Board



11.346-61-5.

November 8, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

On behalf of the Eastern Ohio Development Alliance (EODA) representing 16 counties in Eastern Ohio, we add our support to the growing number of communities, organizations and individuals speaking out in favor of the AEP Ohio ESP Settlement Plan.

It is our 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.

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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,

EASTERN OHIO DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

Dale Hileman Executive Director

Tracy Drake President



(330) 627-4811 Fax (330) 627-3647

Date: November 7, 2011

P.O. Box 277

Carrollton, Ohio 44615

1-800-956-4684

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

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 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 Docket No. 11-0346-EL-SSO

Amy Rutledge Director Carroll County Chamber of Commerce PO Box 277 Carrollton, Ohio 44615

11-346-0-550

To: Todd Snitchler 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Todd Snitchler, Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission

Let me begin by introducing myself. My name is Marian and I am the owner of a locally-owned market located on Beekman Street in Cincinnati. I have owned the business for two years, and have greatly enjoyed the chance to grow my business and improve our area. For the past few weeks I have grown more and more interested in the current cases in front of the Public Utilities Commission. From what I understand, I fully endorse the current AEP Security Plan.

My reasoning is simple. I think that businesses work better with more competition. I think that, as a local business owner, it's extremely important that we have a chance to choose our electricity provider and be able to negotiate for better rates. Although I am not in AEP territory, I think that this settlement is the right path for Ohio, and will help businesses across our state. I hope soon I will be able to choose my own provider so that I can keep electricity rate hikes in check, as I have seen them grow out of control for years. Thanks for the hard work that you do, and I think that it's in everyone's best interest to increase competition and keep electricity rates at reasonable levels.

Thanks again,

auan Nassan

Marian Nassar, owner of Beekman Market Located at: 3297 Beekman Street Cincinnati, OH 45225

November 8, 2011



November 8, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

I am writing to you in support the AEP Ohio ESP Settlement Plan which I think is a good idea because of the reasons below. I hope you will add my ideas to Docket No. 11-0346-EL-SSO.

- 1) The agreement does not prevent customers from shopping for a competitive retail electricity supplier, but actually enhances this option.
- 2) AEP is a great community partner, working both with social service agencies and the arts, to make Ohio a better place for everyone.
- 3) The agreement is a compromise that will give direction to the company and provide clarity on this important public policy.

Finally, on a personal note, AEP has been a great community partner to the arts in Stark County. We have run a learning experiment in certain schools for the last three years called the SmArts Program. It has demonstrated once again that integrating the arts into the curriculum makes "smarter kids"— higher tests scores. We are now expanding this program across Stark County and stressing math and science and reading as its key components. AEP has been bold and innovative in its support of this effort. In short, they are a company who cares about their communities.





900 Cleveland Avenue N.W.

Mailing Address P.O. Box 21190 Canton, OH 44701-1190

p: 330/453/1075 f: 330/453/1105

www.ArtsinStark.com

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11-346-61-42

Chairman Snitchler Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad St. Columbus, OH

November 10, 2011

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

As I understand it, you are the head of the commission that has the power to approve the proposed AEP plan. I am writing today in order to express my sincere support for the plan. What I like about the plan is that it gives me and small businesses in the area greater choice when it comes to our electricity needs. I believe that small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and whatever we can do to bring down their costs is of utmost importance, especially in this economy.

I have managed my store, G & L Carryout, for over 6 years and rising energy costs are bad for business. I'd like to see this plan go through so we can keep down costs and preserve them into the future, with the free market.

Thanks for the time, and I would like to again stress how important keeping energy costs in check is to me.

Appreciated,

Mueller Zak G & L Carryout 54 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Columbus, OH 43201 /



November 10, 2011

Public Utilities Commission Ohio Chairman Todd Snitchler 185 East Broad St 12th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: PUCO Case No. 11-0346-EL-SSO

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

Globe Metallurgical ("Globe") wishes to inform you that it has joined in support of the September 7, 2011 stipulation agreement in the above-mentioned proceeding. Please consider Globe's position as though we were a signatory to the filed Stipulation.

Globe, a manufacturer of silicon and silicon-based alloys, has a manufacturing facility in Beverly, Ohio in Washington County. Globe employs approximately 200 people in our Ohio operations and has been a customer of American Electric Power for approximately 60 years. Electricity costs and supply are vital to our operations and are our single largest monthly expense.

Globe reserves the right to change its position should the stipulation's rate impacts be modified from the current agreement.

Sincerely

Jeff Bradley // Chief Executive Officer

11, 346. Q. 140

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed settlement in AEP Ohio's Electric Security Plan case (case # 11-346-EL-SSO).

Let me start off by saying I am a proud Columbus city small business owner. My name is Omar and I own a small shop that serves hundreds of residents of the Columbus area. We are located on Sullivant Avenue, and have been able to serve our community for over ten years. Regarding electricity, It's critical that we have a choice when it comes to electricity, especially in this economic climate. More competition means that businesses have to increase competition and we can get better rates.

I support the proposed settlement because it will preserve customer choice throughout AEP Ohio's territory by supporting continued competition in the electricity market and attracting more businesses to Ohio. It also will allow more customers to shop for a competitive retail electricity supplier and save money. In addition, the settlement will keep electric bills for small businesses and families at a reasonable level. Organizations like mine face many challenges in today's economy. Right now the cost of doing business seems to constantly be on the rise. By making sure electricity is more competitive we can ensure that my small businesses can continue to grow and serve the people of Columbus. We need to make sure our electricity bills remain affordable and protect our ability to shop the market to save money. That's a key reason so many businesses and organizations have endorsed the settlement.

There's another big reason the PUCO should approve the settlement. It also will foster business investment, job growth, customer choice and innovation in Columbus and other communities across the state. A stronger competitive electricity marketplace will help keep Ohio's economy moving forward.

I strongly urge the PUCO to approve the proposed settlement in the AEP Ohio rate case.

Sincerely,

Omar Kash 2240 Sullivant Avenue Columbus, OH43223

J/\$

11-346-2-450

**Amine Tonaba** 

Mr. Todd Snitchler, PUCO 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio

November 10, 2011

Mr. Snitchler:

From what I have heard about the proposed AEP proposal, I agree with. From what I understand the plan keeps electricity at a reasonable rate, while allowing for more competition. If this is true, that means that small businesses and families will get to have greater choice when it comes to who provides them with electricity as well as bring down costs. More competition for my business means that electricity companies will have to compete against each other to give customers the best rates

From working at a local business in in Columbus at a local business for over 8 years I know the impact of utility rate hikes have on business. Keeping rates low is important to the business I work at, as well as for residents of the area. Please support this plan that will work to stop ever increasing electricity price hikes.

Much appreciated,

Amine Tonaba J& N Carry Out 1541 E. Whitter Street Columbus, OH 43206

11-346-EL-140

November 7, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed settlement in AEP Ohio's Electric Security Plan case (case # 11-346-EL-SSO).

My name is Sall Bangoura and I own a small convenience store off of Stewart Avenue in Columbus. We cater to the local neighborhood, and that is why keeping utility costs down is so important to myself and my employees. When I have to pay more for electricity, which means I will have to raise prices for my customers. I believe it is very important that we have a choice as an electricity customer so that we can ensure that our customers are getting the very best prices and our community is best served.

I support the proposed settlement because it will preserve customer choice throughout AEP Ohio's territory by supporting continued competition in the electricity market and attracting more businesses to Ohio. It also will allow more customers to shop for a competitive retail electricity supplier and save money. In addition, the settlement will keep electric bills for small businesses and families at a reasonable level. Organizations like mine face many challenges in today's economy. It seems that every year my businesses taxes and utilities increase, raising the costs for the individuals in the Columbus community that I serve every day. We need to make sure our electricity bills remain affordable and protect our ability to shop the market to save money. That's a key reason so many businesses and organizations have endorsed the settlement.

There's another big reason the PUCO should approve the settlement. It also will foster business investment, job growth, customer choice and innovation in Columbus and other communities across the state. A stronger competitive electricity marketplace will help keep Ohio's economy moving forward.

I strongly urge the PUCO to approve the proposed settlement in the AEP Ohio rate case.

Sincerely,

Sall Bangoura 691 Stewart Ave. Columbus, OH 43206

Sall Dang.

11-346-EL-550

Cmn. T. Snitchler of the PUCO 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Todd Snitchler,

Thank you for your hard work as Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission. As someone who manages a business in the AEP service area, I have been following the recent security plan and I am writing to express my support.

Although I have only managed my business for 7 months, I know exactly how much utility costs affect my business. High utility costs keep businesses from being able to reinvest in the community and hire more workers. From what I understand of the proposed plan, it allows greater competition in the electricity market. This would be great for businesses because competition leads to more competitive rates. That's why I am backing AEP's plan.

My small shop employs a number of people from the area, and higher energy costs are making it harder and harder to do business. Please push for more competitive rates so that we can attract more businesses to our area and improve the community. Not only is this move good for businesses, but families on hard times are having a difficult time paying for what seems like ever increasing energy costs.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Much Appreciated,

unko Eus.

Tedros Werke 1293 Summit Street Columbus, OH 43201

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COLUMBUS REGION

> 150 South Front St. Suite 200 Columbus. OH 43215

> > T (614) 225.6060 columbusregion.com

November 14, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

Please accept this letter of support from Columbus2020!, Central Ohio's regional economic development organization, in favor of the AEP Ohio ESP Settlement Plan. Competitive, reliable energy within the Columbus region is critical to our economic growth strategy.

It is our 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 regional partner and works with our organization to help provide job growth and business retention in our community. 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 our service territory.

The AEP Ohio settlement agreement 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.

enny My **KennyMcDonald** 

KennyMcDonald Columbus2020! Columbus, OH

11-376-EL-550

Mr. Todd Snitchler Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission 180 East Broad St. Columbus, OH

November 10, 2011

Dear Mr. Snitchler,

I am writing as both a resident and a manager of a small business of the AEP area. My name is Mike Wysocki and I am extremely supportive of the AEP settlement. From what I have heard, this plan is good for the residents and businesses of the area, because it allows us for greater choice in electricity companies. For two years I have seen at the store, utility bills continue to rise without any regard for the economic situation we all face.

My reasoning for supporting this issue is simple. The more opportunities you give businesses to cut costs, the more money they will have to reinvest in things that will help the community- like expanding their shops or hiring more employees. I think this is the right step, as it keeps electricity rate hikes in check and opens up the electricity market for more competition. When you are looking over this settlement, please keep in mind the small stores and area residents that could use some much needed relief from constant utility rate hikes.

H

Mike Wysocki Chalet Pizza 10708 Gorsuch Road Galena, OH 43201

11-346-EL-550

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed settlement in AEP Ohio's Electric Security Plan case (case # 11-346-EL-SSO).

I manage and operate a small retail establishment in Columbus named M & R Wine Mart. We have been open for over 7 years and have worked hard every day to improve our business to better serve our community. It is essential that we work to improve the electricity market in our area, in order to make our community more competitive and bring down costs for customers. When I am able to save money on utilities, that means I have more money to keep and hire new employees and bring down costs for customers.

I support the proposed settlement because it will preserve customer choice throughout AEP Ohio's territory by supporting continued competition in the electricity market and attracting more businesses to Ohio. It also will allow more customers to shop for a competitive retail electricity supplier and save money. In addition, the settlement will keep electric bills for small businesses and families at a reasonable level. Organizations like mine face many challenges in today's economy. In our current economy customers are looking to save money, and the more I have to pay on utilities means that my business is less competitive. It's important that we bring down costs of energy so that we can strengthen small business and attract new employers to the area. We need to make sure our electricity bills remain affordable and protect our ability to shop the market to save money. That's a key reason so many businesses and organizations have endorsed the settlement.

There's another big reason the PUCO should approve the settlement. It also will foster business investment, job growth, customer choice and innovation in downtown Columbus and other communities across the state. A stronger competitive electricity marketplace will help keep Ohio's economy moving forward.

I strongly urge the PUCO to approve the proposed settlement in the AEP Ohio rate case.

Sincerely,

John Hijazn 1553 E. Main Street Columbus, OH 43205

- - m

11-346-EL-550

Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> 2011

Chairman Snitchler, PUCO

Chairman Todd Snitchler,

My name is Abdulamir and I am a local business owner in the Columbus community. I have heard about a possible settlement for AEP, and I wanted to write in to express my sincere interest.

Since 2009, I have worked hard to cultivate my business and improve our service to the Columbus community. It's very important that the state of Ohio continue to make our electricity market more competitive. As my utility rates costs go up, so do the costs I have to transfer to my customers. It's important that we decrease the cost of energy so we can bring more small businesses to Ohio, especially in this economy.

It's important that we improve utility choice in our area, so that we can attract more businesses and strengthen the small businesses that are already operating in Ohio. As a business owner, I think it would be in my business' best interest to shop around for electricity suppliers and bring down costs. I think that the settlement allows small businesses to thrive by keeping electricity rates reasonable. As Ohio is part of the global marketplace we need to make sure that we stay competitive to keep more jobs from leaving our state. That's why I support this plan.

Please keep allowing our small businesses to grow and allow for greater competition in the marketplace.

Sigcerely

Abdulamir Al-Janah 128 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Columbus, OH 43201