

## CITY OF ASHTABULA OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER

MUNICIPAL BUILDING **4717 MAIN AVENUE** ASHTABULA, OHIO 44004

JAMES M. TIMONERE CITY MANAGER



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March 14, 2012

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

To Whom it May Concern:

In November of 2011, the Council of the City of Ashtabula passed Resolution 2011-182 opposing the application of the Ohio American Water Company's proposed water rate increase as filed with the PUCO in July of 2011 in Case No. 11-4161-WS-AIR.

Since this Ordinance was passed and filed with the Public Utilities Commission, I along with two members of Council were newly elected. As a new body, the Administration and the City Council of the City of Ashtabula, Ohio, on behalf of the citizens of our City want to reiterate such an increase would be detrimental to the residents and businesses of the City of Ashtabula. It is still our belief the Ohio American Water Company's requested increases are unfair, excessive and incapable of justification.

We continue to encourage the Public Utilities Commission to deny this application. Our community along with many others which would be affected by this rate increase are struggling to remain competitive with neighboring States as well as other areas within Ohio to attract and retain businesses to our communities. Neither our residents nor our local businesses can afford to such an unjustified rate increase.

Sincerely.

Tames M. Timonere

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