



[UNLEASHING THE POWER OF GREEN]

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

10-501-EL-FOR
10-502-EL-FOR

PUCO

RE: In the Matter of Long-Term Forecast Reports of Ohio Power Company and Columbus Southern Power Company and Related Matters (PUCO Case Nos. 10-501-EL-FOR and 10-502-EL-FOR)

Thanks to its strategic location, skilled workforce, abundant natural resources and innovative spirit, Ohio has long been the backbone of America's economy. Though the state was among the hardest hit by the national recession, it's now fueling America's recovery. As the clouds lift from the recession, a promising bright spot has emerged, driving investment and job creation, and reestablishing Ohio as a global manufacturing powerhouse. This bright spot is clean energy. While the success of clean energy in Ohio has been remarkable, it pales in comparison to its potential. And no project in the state demonstrates that potential better than the Turning Point Solar Project.

Turning Point is an important reminder of the troubling legacy of energy in Ohio and a demonstration of its promising future. Set to put some 700 acres of reclaimed strip mine land back to work, Turning Point will maximize the potential of these damaged lands. For generations, Appalachia and its people have provided the power that ran our economy, and the Turning Point project will continue this tradition for generations to come - without the negative environmental implications. Turning Point will also take advantage of an overlooked but important remnant of the region's former coal mining infrastructure - transmission lines that once powered the giant shovels used in the strip mining process. This infrastructure, coupled with seemingly endless swaths of marginal land makes the region prime real estate for future solar deployment.

In addition to these geographic assets and environmental benefits, Turning Point holds tremendous economic potential in both Southeast Ohio, and the state at large. The construction of the project itself is set to bring over 100 much-needed construction jobs during each of its three phases. Importantly, these jobs will be filled by Ohioans. Perhaps even more importantly though, the project is being leveraged to expand Ohio's already robust solar supply chain. Isofoton, a Spanish solar manufacturing company, agreed to locate its manufacturing plant in Napoleon after the Turning Point developers committed to purchase 250,000 solar panels from the company. The addition of the Isofoton plant will result in 300 permanent jobs and establish Northwest Ohio as a global leader in solar manufacturing.

It's rare that a single project hold so many positive implications for the environment and economy of an entire region, but that is the true promise of Turning Point.

Please docket this letter in PUCO Case Nos. 10-501-EL-FOR and 10-502-EL-FOR.

Brian Kaiser
Director of Green Jobs & Innovation
Ohio Environmental Council

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