



INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF
ELECTRICAL WORKERS
FOURTH DISTRICT



11-346-EL-SSO

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May 22, 2012

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PUCO

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

Re: In the Matter of the Application of Columbus Southern Power Company and Ohio Power Company for Authority to Establish a Standard Service Offer Pursuant to Section 4928.143, Ohio Rev. Code, in the Form of an Electric Security Plan (Case Nos. 11-346-EL-SSO and 11-348-EL-SSO)

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

On behalf of the entire 54,000 members of the Fourth District and the 45 Ohio Local Unions of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers ("I.B.E.W."), I send this letter to you in support of the Turning Point Solar Project currently before the Public Utilities Commission for consideration. The I.B.E.W. wholly supports this project and the jobs that it will create in Southeast Ohio.

The I.B.E.W. believes that Southeast Ohio is best served by an economic development strategy and an energy generation strategy that is balanced. We are excited by the prospects associated with new oil and gas production technologies that should bring substantial jobs and wealth creation to Southeast Ohio. As important as oil and gas drilling is likely to be to the future of our State, rural Southeast Ohio seeks to benefit also from a renewable energy future that deploys hydropower, waste heat recovery, clean coal and solar strategies to name just a few of Green Energy pathways that have direct relevance to this part of the State. The 50mw Turning Point Solar array allows the Southeast Ohio region to participate in a balanced approach to energy generation and to do so in a very meaningful way.

We acknowledge that Southeast Ohio has abundant land that has been mined and sometimes reclaimed, other times, not. The development group at Turning Point Solar and AEP deserve praise for figuring out a way to put approximately 700 acres of reclaimed land, once mined by the Big Muskie to a constructive use. Indeed, large stretches of Appalachia Ohio might be viewed as a utility scale solar project waiting to happen, seemingly endless acreage of marginal land with few remaining environmental obstacles to development.

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Chairman Todd A. Snitchler
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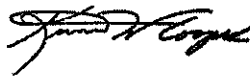
We are pleased that a focus of the developers of the Turning Point Solar project has been placed on job creation in Ohio. The construction and installation of this project will result in more than 300 jobs per year. Over 100 construction jobs will be created in each of the three phases of the project. These jobs are badly needed in an area that is desperate for economic development and growth in the State of Ohio. Even with the strong prospects of the oil and gas industry, these jobs will be filled, almost without exception, by Ohio residents.

In addition, the developers of the project have advised us that approximately 85% of the goods and services required for the construction of the project will come from Ohio based companies, beginning with the acquisition of close to 250,000 solar panels from a Napoleon, Ohio based supplier that again will strengthen Ohio and Ohio families by creating more jobs. This supplier, Isofoton North America, agreed to locate its factory in Napoleon when this order was secured. When fully operational, we are advised that more than 300 permanent manufacturing jobs will be created at this plant in Napoleon, Ohio.

The benefits of this project will be primarily enjoyed by rural and small town residents in economically challenged parts of Southeast Ohio and with the Napoleon plant, in Northwestern Ohio as well. It is for this reason and our support of job creation in Ohio that the I.B.E.W. strongly supports this project and urges its swift approval by the Public Utilities Commission.

Please docket this letter in PUCO Case Nos. 11-346-EL-SSO and 11-348-EL-SSO.

Sincerely,



Kenneth W. Cooper
International Vice President
IBEW Fourth District

KWC

Cc: file