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# Canfield Local Schools Board of Education

"...a caring environment that prepares all students..."

100 Wadsworth Street, Canfield, Ohio 44406  
Phone (330) 533-3303, Fax (330) 533-6827  
Web Site: <http://www.canfieldschools.net>

FILE

June 6, 2012

11-346-EL-SSO

Chairman Todd A. Snitchler  
Commissioner Cheryl Roberto  
Commissioner Steven D. Lesser  
Commissioner Andre T. Porter  
Commissioner Lynn Slaby  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Ohio Schools' Opposition to American Electric Power Company's Electric Security Plan;  
PUCO Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO

Dear Chairman Snitchler and Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the Canfield Local School District to urge you to reject or modify American Electric Power's application for an electric security plan. As you likely are aware, Ohio's public primary and secondary schools have undergone devastating funding cuts at the state and federal levels for the current biennium. In fact, total funding losses over the 2012-2013 biennium will mean that Ohio school districts will receive about **\$2.8 billion less** in total state and federal funds over the two-year period than they would have received under a continuation of fiscal year 2011 funding levels. These funding cuts have caused our district to **reduce staffing by 28 positions** (both teaching and non-teaching positions), and decrease funding for necessary material and equipment. We fear that increases to our already sizeable electric bills will lead to more staff reductions and compromise our ability to provide students with a quality education.

We believe it is unreasonable that AEP is attempting to implement a capacity charge that is more than *fifteen* times the current market-based charge; is proposing to discount that charge to competitive retail electric service providers; and is asking all of its customers (including the schools) to pay a Retail Stability Rider to compensate it for the discount. We're aware that AEP is in the process of transitioning to a competitive market, but Ohio's schools should not be placed in a position to "bail out" AEP during the three-year transition period, especially during a time when the schools' own limited taxpayer resources have been so dramatically cut. We simply cannot afford

Sincerely,

Dante J. Zambrini

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PUCO

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