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From:

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Sent:

Monday, June 11, 2012 12:15 PM

To:

Snitchler, Todd; contact@jobs-ohio.com

Cc:

BoardofEducation; Rodney Wallace

Subject:

PUCO Case No. 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, 12th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

2012 JUN 29 PM 3: 51

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 write on behalf of the Adams County/Ohio Valley 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 levels (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.

Over the last several years, our district has taken extraordinary steps to reduce our overall operating costs to maintain the best possible environment for our students, staff as well as our community. Many of these steps involve reducing our electricity costs. As an example, two of our three elementary buildings have solar arrays mounted on the roof to reduce our usage and a carefully crafted power purchase agreement enables us to bring this cost saving and environment friendly technology to our struggling rural community without incurring any infrastructure or debt costs. These types of power purchase agreements as well as the ability to competitively shop for our electricity enables our district to keep more teachers employed and in the classroom. These steps as well as countless others have earned our district state and national recognition for example, one of our elementary buildings has been recognized as a "Green Ribbon School", and seven of our buildings have received EnergystarTM recognition. We are currently ranked in the top seven percent (7%) of all school buildings within the State of Ohio.

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 can't afford it.

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.

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