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THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 10, 2012

Todd Snitchler  
Chairman  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

PUCO

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RE: Case 11-346-EL-SSO

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

I am writing to applaud your leadership and the leadership of the PUCO relative to the recent American Electric Power Electric Security Plan Order (Case 11-346-EL-SSO). I am of course aware that there are many complex components of this rate plan but would like to highlight to your attention the importance of one of those components, the approval of the Generation Resource Rider, which creates a platform for the Turning Point Solar (TPS) project to be approved by the PUCO.

The Turning Point Solar Project (49.9 MW), which would be the largest solar project east of the Rocky Mountains, is impressive as compared to other renewables projects. It is utilizing heretofore unusable reclaimed mining lands, is cost competitive as compared to other sources of solar resources and is utilizing innovative financing techniques to further drive down project costs. It will create hundreds of construction jobs in Appalachia where they are sorely needed and will also create full-time employment for many Ohioans in NW Ohio and across the state.

The TPS Project is the reason the Spanish manufacturer Isofoton has located its North American Headquarters in Napoleon, Ohio. This facility, which has begun to produce photovoltaic panels and hire Ohioans, has the promise of employing approximately 350 full-time employees as well as providing significant tax base for many Ohio communities. It further has the potential of becoming a genuine Ohio success story as together we will have attracted a

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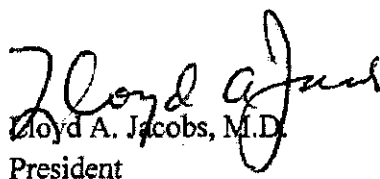
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global manufacturer that is leveraging international investment and in turn is supplying Ohio manufacturers *and* exporting products around the world. This is the type of job creation and investment that Ohio needs as it revitalizes its manufacturing heritage, and NW Ohio is poised to be a major contributor to this resurgence as a global leader in solar manufacturing. Simply stated, TPS and Isofoton are critical components of this resurgence.

TPS represents a significant contribution to the growth and stability of the entire Ohio Solar Supply Chain. Ohio boasts more than 100 solar companies, and NW Ohio is home to nearly a third of those businesses. NW Ohio has received national attention as one of the nation's premier solar hubs, and TPS has committed to use as many Ohio manufactured components as possible, with more than 85% of the project likely to be comprised of parts manufactured by Ohioans. Again, this is the type of economic activity that is good for all of Ohio and is catalyzed by NW Ohio.

Thank you again, Chairman, for creating the opportunity for Turning Point Solar to become a reality through the approval of the Generation Resource Rider. I understand that there remain regulatory requirements relative to TPS that must be satisfied, but the establishment of the Generation Resource Rider was an important step. I urge you and your fellow Commissioners to expeditiously adjudicate the remaining regulatory procedures so that Turning Point Solar can become a real Ohio success story that will contribute to the continued transformation of Northwest Ohio from the *Glass City* to the *Solar Manufacturing Capital of the World*.

Sincerely,

  
Lloyd A. Jacobs, M.D.  
President

CC: Governor John Kasich  
Commissioner Steven Lesser  
Commissioner Andre Porter  
Commissioner Cheryl Roberto  
Commissioner Lynn Slaby  
Chief of Staff Eric Weldele