KISTER CONSTRUCTION, INC.

P O BOX 768 2024 AETNA RD. ASHTABULA, OH 44005

PHONE: (440) 997-5676 FAX: (440) 997-5289

October 10, 2012

Mr. Todd Snitchler, Chairman Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 80 E Broad St. Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: ASHTA reasonable arraignment (PUCO Case No. 12-1494-EL-AEC)

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

Kister Construction strongly supports granting Ashta's reasonable arrangement pending before the PUCO. As a major employer in Ashtabula County, ASHTA makes a significant contribution to our local economy, such as wages and benefits for its employee's plus paying state and local taxes that support our community.

With the approval of this reasonable arrangement, ASHTA will invest more that \$50 million dollars in new manufacturing that will not only provide for an environmentally sound process but also allow for the investment of new technology that will permit ASHTA to remain competitive in our global economy. This will help add additional jobs at the plant as well as construction work.

The most critical component necessary to sustain the viability of this company is the provision of affordable electricity in order to permit this important development for our area. Quite simply, failure to provide for affordable power could lead to closure of this facility which would serve as another devastating blow to our economy. Power is the one of the largest cost of producing ASHTA's products and thus a critical component in determining ASHTA's competitiveness and long term viability.

Thus, I hope that the PUCO would look favorable upon ASHTA's reasonable arrangement. The addition of forty million dollars in capital investment will provide substantial benefits for years to come to our region and our state. Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald R. Kister

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