

FILE



Jerome R. Brockway, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Mrs. Mary Ann Wayman
Treasurer

October 10, 2012

Mr. Todd Snitchler, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

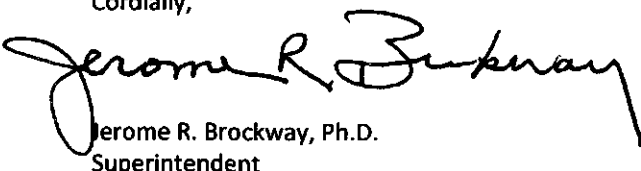
I am writing in support of ASHTA Chemicals reasonable arrangement with First Energy pending before the PUCO. ASHTA Chemicals has its Corporate Offices manufacturing base in Ashtabula. ASHTA is and has been a stollard corporate citizen within Ashtabula County. They have been an excellent supporter of Ashtabula County community activities and ardent supporter of education and the school systems within Ashtabula County. ASHTA contributes nearly half a million dollars in support to our local communities and school districts through its payment of state and local taxes. In fact, ASHTA contributes more than eight million dollars annually towards our economy in wages and benefits for its employees.

It is critical that we work together to retain and create jobs whenever we can. As a representative of Ashtabula County, I encourage and ask that the PUCO favorably consider the reasonable arrangement with First Energy and help ensure a long time commitment by ASHTA to Ashtabula County. Without the approval of the proposal by PUCO, ASHTA may not invest in our county and in turn make investment decisions elsewhere.

With the approval of this reasonable agreement, my understanding is that ASHTA will invest more than \$50 million dollars in new manufacturing that will not only provide environmentally sound process but also allow for the investment of new technology that will commit ASHTA to remain competitive in the global economy. The reasonable arrangement pending before PUCO will provide affordable electricity in order to permit this important development in our area. Failure to provide affordable power could lead to the closure of this facility which would serve as another devastating blow to our economy within Ashtabula County.

Therefore, it is my hope that the PUCO will look favorably on ASHTA's application. Approval of the application will allow ASHTA to move forward with their expansion as well as maintain ASHTA within Ashtabula County that will help stabilize and in fact give a much needed boost for our economy. I want to thank you for the consideration of my request. Please do not hesitate to call if you would like to further discuss this matter.

Cordially,


Jerome R. Brockway, Ph.D.
Superintendent

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