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Timothy W. Burga  
PRESIDENTPierrette M. Talley  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

December, 20<sup>th</sup> 2012

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

RECEIVED-DOCKETING  
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PUCO

RE: In the Matter of the Long-Term Forecast Reports of Ohio Power Company and  
Southern Power Company and Related Matters (PUCO Case Nos. 10-501-EL-FOR and 10-  
502-EL-FOR)

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

On behalf of working families and over 500,000 AFL-CIO members in Ohio, I write to you today urging your support for the Turning Point Solar project currently being considered by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. The state federation has been on record supporting traditional energy sources as well as a diverse energy portfolio that includes new and developing energy technologies. Therefore, the state federation fully supports this project and its goal of creating good paying jobs in a region of the state hardest hit by the most recent recession.

This project is "shovel ready" and will provide many economic benefits for two important regions and state of Ohio as a whole. The solar farm in Noble County will create a minimum of 300 construction related jobs over the next three years, permanent jobs to run the operations of the facility, and significant "indirect" job creation. The abundance of orders already placed due to this project has caused a decision by one of Europe's leading solar panel manufactures to relocate their operations to Henry County with a promise of at least 300 permanent manufacturing jobs in Ohio.

Another benefit of this project is the additional needed revenue it will create in South East Ohio. The approval of this important project will likely inject \$400,000 per year to Noble counties' local government fund which will mostly be used for the school system. Further, Turning Point Solar has a goal of using an Ohio-based supply chain in order to complete and continue the project which will bolster the number of "indirect" job creation.

As mentioned above, this project is "shovel ready". Turning Point Solar has been diligent in preparing for this project. They have executed a participation Agreement with AEP Ohio- which will be providing monies for the construction as well as receiving the electrical output from the facility getting closer to meet alternative energy thresholds put forth in Senate Bill 221. They have been able to get environmental clearance from United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) rural development

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division, executed an Interconnection Services Agreement with PJM who will design and build the grid interconnection in which the infrastructure already exists due to this project being built on reclaimed Big Muskie mining land, and are close to reaching agreements with OAQDA and USDA for low-cost loans.

In summation, the Ohio AFL-CIO strongly supports the Turning Point Solar Project in Noble County and urges the PUCO to approve it promptly. Too many good Ohio-based jobs are at stake to delay this important project any further.

Chairman Snitchler, I appreciate your consideration to this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Please docket this letter in PUCO Case Nos.10-501-EL-FOR and 10-502-EL-FOR.

Sincerely,

Tim Burga  
President, Ohio AFL-CIO

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