

The Voto Manufacturers Sales Company 500 N. Third Street, PO Box 1299 Steubenville, Ohio 43952-6299 Phone: (740) 282-3621 Fax: (740) 282-5441 Email: steubenville@votosales.com www.votosales.com

Nov. 14, 2014

The Honorable John Kasich Governor of Ohio Riffe Center, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Dear Governor Kasich:

2014 NOV 20 AM 8: 40

On behalf of Voto Sales and our 50 hard-working employees, I want to keep affordable and reliable electricity available to support our economy in the years ahead.

FirstEnergy has been a valuable customer of Voto and I believe they have done an excellent job of keeping electric prices affordable for businesses and consumers. However, FirstEnergy and others have been challenged in recent years by regulatory issues and market pressures that have led to the closing of many of Ohio's largest power plants, and more retirements are expected. I'm concerned that these factors could drive up electricity prices and affect the reliability of our service at a time when we're still recovering from a difficult economy.

We can't afford to wait on the sidelines for the market to react or the federal government to intervene. The time is now for Ohio to take action and secure our energy future.

That's why I'm urging your support of FirstEnergy's proposed Electric Security Plan, Powering Ohio's Progress, which will help keep future price increases in check while enabling Ohio to preserve its vital energy resources. FirstEnergy's plan also provides economic development funding to help Ohio create jobs and attract new business growth.

We truly appreciate FirstEnergy's commitment to serving Ohio's energy needs, and we hope you will support this solid plan for our state's energy future. In the meantime, we would appreciate it if your staff could docket this letter as part of the record in this proceeding (14-1297-EL-SSO).

Best Regards,

David Meyer Vice President

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cc: PUCO Chairman Thomas W. Johnson

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November 14, 2014

The Honorable John Kasich Governor of Ohio Riffe Center, 30th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Dear Governor Kasich:

On behalf of the Mayors Association of Portage, Stark and Summit, I am writing you to let you know our mayors want to keep affordable and reliable electricity available to support our economy and our region's quality of life in the years ahead.

As one of our region's largest energy providers, FirstEnergy will continue to play a key role in this effort while building on its longstanding support of economic growth in our community. However, the company has been challenged in recent years by regulatory issues and market pressures that have led to the closing of many of Ohio's largest power plants, and more retirements are expected. I'm concerned that these factors could drive up electricity prices and compromise the reliability of our service at a time when we're still recovering from a difficult economy.

We can't afford to wait on the sidelines for the market to react or the federal government to intervene. The time is now for Ohio to take action and secure our energy future.

That's why I'm urging your support of FirstEnergy's proposed Electric Security Plan, *Powering Ohio's Progress*, which will help keep future price increases in check while enabling Ohio to preserve its vital energy resources. FirstEnergy's plan also provides economic development funding to help our communities create jobs and attract new business growth.

Louis Berroteran, Executive Director

We truly appreciate FirstEnergy's hometown involvement and leadership on these important issues, and we hope you will support this solid plan for Ohio's energy future. In the meantime, we would appreciate it if your staff could docket this letter as part of the record in this proceeding (14-1297-EL-SSO).

Best regards, J. Senstern Zoui

Louis G. Berroteran MPA Executive Director Mayors Association of Portage, Stark & Summit (MAPSS) One Canal Square Plaza, Suite 107 Akron, Ohio 44308 <u>berroterangroup@att.net</u> (330) 374-5911 office (330) 730-8965 cellular

cc: PUCO Chairman Thomas W. Johnson

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 108 E. Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

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## **OF SOUTHERN COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

November 17, 2014

P.O. Box 646 East Liverpool, Ohio 43920 330-385-2082 unitedway1@att.net

The Honorable John Kasich Governor of Ohio Riffe Center, 30th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Dear Governor Kasich:

On behalf of the United Way of Southern Columbiana County, I'm urging your support of FirstEnergy's proposed Electric Security Plan, *Powering Ohio's Progress*.

FirstEnergy's plan will help ensure the continued operation of a major employer in the Ohio Valley, the W.H. Sammis Plant, a 2,200-megawatt baseload power generating facility in Stratton, Ohio. It will also protect customers from electric price increases.

As of today, the long-term viability of this plant – along with the substantial economic benefits it delivers to our community and others – may be at risk. You may be aware that power generators like FirstEnergy have been challenged in recent years by regulatory issues and market pressures that have led to the closing of many of Ohio's largest power plants, and more plant retirements are expected.

The Sammis plant plays a significant role in sustaining our local economy. The plant directly employs more than 400 people with an annual payroll of \$34 million. Many of these employees live in our community. FirstEnergy is also the largest taxpayer in Jefferson County, with the plant expected to generate about \$5.5 million in annual property tax revenues to local jurisdictions in 2014. The Sammis plant also supports the local economy with millions of dollars each year in vendor purchases, employee spending and property ownership.

We truly appreciate FirstEnergy's continued investment in our community, and hope you will support this plan to help Ohio become more energy independent. In the meantime, we would appreciate it if your staff could docket this letter as part of the record in this proceeding (PUCO Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO).

Best regards,

Diane Johnson Executive Director

cc: PUCO Chairman Thomas W. Johnson