

FILE

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
December 23, 2014

14-1297-EL-SSO
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, MANUFACTURING AND TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATION

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PUCO

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

Dear Governor Kasich:

Many of Ohio's largest power plants have closed in recent years due to market challenges and tougher regulations, and more plant retirements are expected. This means more Ohio jobs lost, and rising electricity prices in the years ahead.

That's why I'm urging your support of FirstEnergy's proposed Electric Security Plan, *Powering Ohio's Progress*. FirstEnergy's plan will keep electricity affordable and help ensure the continued operation of Ohio power plants, including the W.H. Sammis Plant located in my district. As of today, the long-term viability of this plant – along with the jobs and substantial economic benefits it brings to our communities – may be at risk.

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.

I hope you will support this plan to keep energy affordable and protect Ohio jobs. 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).

Sincerely,

Congressman Bill Johnson

cc: PUCO Chairman Thomas W. Johnson

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