

727 LIME CITY ROAD | SUITE 100 | ROSSFORD, OHIO 43460 | (419) 666-6040 | FAX (419) 666-6080

The Honorable John Kasich Governor of Ohio Riffe Center, 30th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-6112

December 17, 2014

Dear Governor Kasich,

My name is Todd Michaelsen, Chapter Manager of the Ohio/Michigan Chapter of the National Electrical Contactor's Association. My Chapter represents Electrical Contractors in twelve counties in Northwest Ohio that regularly employ 1,500 electricians in the region. This letter is to lend our organization's support to the FirstEnergy plan submitted to the PUCO titled "Powering Ohio's Progress".

This plan not only helps to address retail price volatility in the region but also accomplishes some of the following:

- 1. Helps maintain vital base load power plants available here in Ohio to serve our Ohio customers.
- 2. The program is projected to save customers approximately \$2 billion dollars over 15 years.
- 3. Will help preserve 3,000 direct and indirect jobs created by operations at the Davis-Besse, W.H. Sammis and Ohio Valley Electric Corporation. These jobs provide \$1 billion in annual statewide economic benefits.
- 4. Will provide up to \$6 million per year in economic development funding and energy efficiency assistance to Ohio communities and low-income customers during the three-year term of the plan.
- Will encourage additional capital improvement expenditures on the statewide electrical grid infrastructure.
- 6. Will make Ohio more appealing to manufacturing development in the United States.

We strongly encourage you and the PUCO to support and approve this plan. We will all regret it years from now if Ohio is forced to import most of its power from other states because we were not proactive today. We would appreciate it if your staff would docket this letter as part of the record for PUCO Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO. Please feel free to call and discuss this further should you like, any additional input from our association.

Sincerely,

Todd Michaelsen, Chapter Manager Ohio/Michigan Chapter NECA

Cc: PUCO Chairman Thomas W. Johnson

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