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Representative Andy Thompson
State Representative, 95th District
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PUCO

February 4, 2014

Mr. Tom Johnson, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
80 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Eramet modification to their reasonable arrangement (PUCO Case No. 09-516-EL-AEC)

Dear Chairman Johnson:

I write today to express my support for Eramet Marietta's modification to their reasonable arrangement currently pending before the PUCO. As a major employer in Washington County, Eramet makes a significant contribution to our local economy. In fact, Eramet contributes more than sixty-five million dollars annually towards our economy in wages and benefits for its employees and retirees as well as their payment of state and local taxes that support our community.

With the approval of this proposal, I am told that Eramet will be able to invest in new manufacturing that will not only allow them to comply with federal EPA mandates, but also allow for the investment of new technology that will permit Eramet to remain competitive in our global economy.

The most critical component necessary to sustain the viability of this company is the provision of affordable electricity in order to permit this important development for our area. Quite simply, failure to provide for affordable power could lead to closure of this facility which would serve as a devastating blow to our economy.

Thus, I hope that the PUCO would look favorable upon Eramet's modification to their reasonable arrangement. The ability of Eramet to invest in capital upgrades and retain their well paid employees at their Marietta facility will provide substantial benefits for years to come to our region and our state. Thank you for your attention and work on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew M. Thompson".

Andy Thompson
State Representative
95th House District

COMMITTEES:

Finance
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Development, and Natural
Resources; Chair
Energy and Natural Resources
Agriculture and Rural Development

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