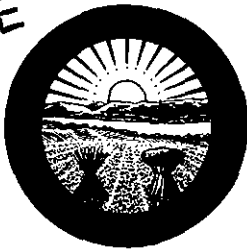


FILE



**SENATOR  
LOU GENTILE**  
ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP  
30TH DISTRICT

**Committees**  
Agriculture - Ranking Member  
Transportation  
Insurance & Financial Institutions  
Energy and Natural Resources -  
Ranking Member  
Rules  
Finance - General Government  
Subcommittee  
Reference

February 3, 2015

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

Re: Case #09-516-EL-AEC

Dear Chairman Johnson:

I would like to express my support for the reasonable arrangement modification proposal from Eramet in my district that is currently pending before the PUCO. Eramet of Marietta's proposed investment in new technology will enable them to comply with Federal EPA regulations, so as to retain good paying jobs in Southeastern Ohio.

Eramet spends more than sixty-five million dollars a year in employee and retiree benefits as well as in taxes in support of our schools, hospitals, and local communities. As public officials, it is imperative that we do all that we can to encourage jobs and investment in our state. With this proposal, Eramet will be able to invest in new manufacturing that will not only allow them to comply with Federal EPA mandates, but will also allow for the investment in new technology that will keep Eramet competitive in the global economy.

Eramet is a valuable employer in my district. The most critical component necessary to sustain the viability of this company is affordable electricity. Failure to provide affordable power could lead to closure of this facility which would be a devastating loss to the economy in Southeast Ohio. It is my hope that the PUCO will look favorably upon the request of Eramet so good paying jobs and the substantial benefits to our region and our state can be retained.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If you have further questions, please contact my office at 614-466-6508.

Sincerely,

Lou Gentile  
Assistant Minority Whip  
Ohio Senate  
District 30

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