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2015 OCT 13 PM 2:48

PUCO

PUCO 180 E Broad Street Columbus Ohio 43215

October 9th 2015

## Attention Docketing 14-1297-EL-SSO

Dear members of the PUCO

This week members of Lorain City Council voted to support a resolution for First Energy in their "economic stability plan". The vote as you can see was not unanimous -from the coverage of the Chronicle Telegram

http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2015/10/06/lorain-council-votes-to-endorse-firstenergy-economic-stability-plan/

.... DeTilio, who proposed the endorsement ordinance.

DeTilio and councilmen Brian Gates, D-1st Ward; Tim Howard, D-3rd Ward; Greg Argenti, I-4th Ward; and Joe Koziura, D-at-large, voted yes. Councilman Dennis Flores, D-2nd Ward; Eddie Edwards, D-5th Ward; Rick Lucente, D-6th Ward; and Josh Thornsberry, D-8th Ward, voted no.

Councilman Joe Faga, D-7th Ward, abstained because he is a FirstEnergy employee......

My reason for writing is to let the members of the PUCO know this was not a unanimous vote and also two. Council at Large who were instrumental in proposing the resolution also were the same two council people who were publically thanked for acquiring a \$15,000.00 donation from First Energy to a 6 hours event in the City of Lorain. Please see the information below which was published on my blog as part of an article on September 11<sup>th</sup> 2015. In that article you will note the First Energy resolution sent to Lorain in April 2015 looking for support- you will see at that time there is written on the top of the resolution there were no sponsors and yet months afterwards and a \$15,000.00 donation we have success and the resolution passes. I am not saying there was any wrongdoing but to me this is more than a coincidence. Also, unfortunately the following letter was sent to the City of Lorain from NOPEC two days after the vote, the opening paragraph reads:

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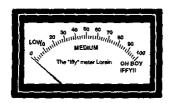
We understand that officials from First Energy Corp. ("FE") have been contacting elected officials in Northeast Ohio communities, including NOPEC member communities, to request official endorsements by local city, village, township and county governments of FE's application before the PUCO in PUCO Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO, filed in August 2014 ("FE Application"). NOPEC has invested a very significant amount of time and energy studying the FE application. After careful review of the FE Application, NOPEC concluded that it simply is not in the best interest of NOPEC members and NOPEC's roughly 500,000 electricity customers Ohio. NOPEC is opposing the FE Application in hearings currently being held at the PUCO in Columbus. Many other interveners are also opposing the FE Application, including customers, consumer representatives, other governmental aggregators, marketers, environmental groups and others.

This letter came after the meeting and therefore was not part of the "resolution meeting, it is my belief had this letter been read the outcome of the resolution of support would have changed

As a member of the community of Lorain, I feel the PUCO should be aware of the resolution situation as it evolved in Lorain and therefore weight of such a resolution should be negated. I would like to state I am not in support of First Energy's economic stability plan, although I have supported First Energy in other – such as the removal of the transmission line Towers from our lake front and the New Republic Arc Furnace. I would therefore ask you to bear in mind the information covered in this letter when looking at the "resolution of support" from the City of Lorain

## https://thatwoman.wordpress.com/

## First Energy and the 15,000 dollar Donation Blog Post Sept 11 2015







Last month, Mr. Joe Koziura Council at Large and Mr. Frank DiTillio also Council at Large were thanked publically and in emails for their support of a local event by receiving a \$15,000 dollar donation from First Energy

We have a \$15K presenting sponsor – First Energy. Joe Koziura and Frank DeTillio started working the circuit to round up sponsorships for the festival last week and landed us this. If you see them around town, thank them as well! They will keep knocking on the doors of their network — glad to have them on the team!

No problem there except there is a resolution going before council Tuesday night (the 8th of September) resolving the support of First Energy for their stand before the Public Utilities Commission

## "Stated Scott Gerfen, Ohio Consumers Counsel spokesperson:

"1.9 million consumers paid billions of dollars to FirstEnergy for its transition to deregulated power plants, under a 1999 Ohio law. Fifteen years later, FirstEnergy is again asking consumers to pay charges related to the power plants. FirstEnergy's requests include asking the government (the PUCO) to guarantee profits for what are deregulated power plants whose profits should

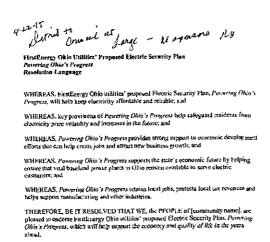
instead be determined by the electricity market. Needless to say, we are concerned for consumers..."

Now there are pros and con arguments for this Power initiative- and they can be found in the links in this post (2nd subject) <a href="https://thatwoman.wordpress.com/2015/08/11/selling-of-lorain-an-energy-decision-red-flags-flying/">https://thatwoman.wordpress.com/2015/08/11/selling-of-lorain-an-energy-decision-red-flags-flying/</a>

Ironically this resolution passed word for word by our Law Director Pat Riley -

http://destinyhosted.com/loraidocs/2015/CCREG/20150908\_28/AGENDApacket 09-08-15\_726\_28.pdf

is word for word from the resolution sent by First Energy to Council at Large. (Mr. Given declined to propose the resolution) and it was hanging around in the offices for months since April 22nd and with no takers! (see handwritten note on the First Energy Page) WHY NOW?????



Usually resolutions are just passed as a support, such as the other one on the agenda re the Salvation Army, BUT this one can affect the citizens and our wallets – I hope those voting will have done their homework as to just what this resolution means – and heaven forbid it isn't tied to the \$15,000 donation –No! surely not that would be a cheap trade off The IFFY meter results

Yours sincerely

Loraine Ritchey