

FILE

**AK Steel Corporation**  
9227 Centre Pointe Drive  
West Chester, Ohio 45069

Phone 513.425.2044  
Fax 513.425.2302

**Kirk W. Reich**  
President and  
Chief Operating Officer

March 1, 2016

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Regarding: FirstEnergy Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO

Dear PUCO:

FirstEnergy's proposed Electric Security Plan has been in the news quite often recently. To read the coverage one would think no organizations/business groups/communities support this unique rate plan.

We do, for the simple reason that it will provide long-term benefits for our Company.



We are not alone in our support. The PUCO staff; Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy, a low-income customer advocacy group; and EnerNOC, an energy management services provider, along with 13 other signatories, support FirstEnergy's efforts.

Unlike other electric suppliers that rely on one fuel source, FirstEnergy's plan provides an insurance policy for customers by keeping a diverse set of fuel sources available in Ohio to generate electricity. This strategy reduces the risk of more Ohio plant closures, or building costly transmission to import out-of-state energy sources that put our state at risk of higher electric prices in the years ahead.

Overall, the agreement preserves \$1 billion in annual statewide economic benefits, including tax revenues and an estimated 3,000 direct and indirect jobs created by operations at Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station in Oak Harbor, Ohio, and the W.H. Sammis Plant in Stratton, Ohio.

The settlement also provides more than \$102 million to help low-income customers with bill payment and energy efficiency programs, along with economic development funding for Ohio communities.

It is not a surprise that many of those leading the charge against FirstEnergy are from out-of-state. Don't listen to them – do what is best over the long term for those of us who live and do business in Ohio and approve FirstEnergy's rate plan.

We truly appreciate the leadership the PUCO has provided on these important issues, and we thank you for your consideration and support for FirstEnergy's plan which we believe will help safeguard Ohio's energy future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirk W. Reich', written over a circular stamp.  
Kirk W. Reich  
President & Chief Operating Officer

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.  
Technician SW Date Processed MAR 08 2016

RECEIVED-BOOKING  
2016 MAR -8 AM 9:14  
PUCO