

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

**CASE NO. 16-0395-EL-SSO
CASE NO. 16-0396-EL-ATA
CASE NO. 16-0397-EL-AAM**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
BRIAN BALDRIDGE
ON BEHALF OF
ADAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

Q. Please state your name for the record.

A. Brian Baldrige.

Q. Where do you live?

A. Wayne Township in Adams County, Ohio.

Q. How long have you lived in Adams County, Ohio?

A. I am the seventh generation owner of the family farm.

Q. Are you raising a family in Adams County, Ohio?

A. My two children were raised in Adams County and they have been in the Ohio Valley Local School District.

Q. Have you held any positions in local government in Adams County?

A. I am currently serving in my fourth term on the Board of Commissioners of Adams County. Prior to that, I was a Township Trustee for Wayne Township for two terms. I have been on the Ohio Township Association Board of Directors and am now on the Board of Directors for the County Commissioners Association of Ohio.

Q. How many residents live in Adams County?

A. About 28,500 people.

Q. As an Adams County Commissioner, is it fair to say you are familiar with how the township provides services to its residents and how your services are funded?

A. Yes I am.

Q. Where does the majority of funding come from to operate the county?

A. Of our revenues, __% percent come from having the two power stations, and we will have to balance the budget with whatever we have. We cannot print money like the federal government. However, that is not the worst effect on our County.

Q. If the power stations were to cease operating what effect would that have on the governmental services provided to the residents of Adams County?

A. As to governmental services, we will have to devastate essential services to the most vulnerable people in our community: the developmentally disabled, to children at risk of abuse, and to our senior citizens. We will also have to cut our emergency medical services. For emergency medical and fire protection, we are directly responsible for one third of the county, and contract with local communities for the other two thirds. However, the bigger problem is the ripple effect of losing \$35 Million in payroll in our county. Everything revolves around that income. Groceries and insurance and mortgages are paid with that payroll. Will the Dollar General close? How many restaurants will close? Certainly, we will not have new business want to move to our community. We are halfway between Cincinnati and Portsmouth. The power plants are primary reasons to live here. Without them, our people will not have a reason to live here if they must all drive from here to Cincinnati to work.

Q. What are you requesting that the PUCO take into consideration in this case?

A. I would ask the members of PUCO to address whether the granting or denial of a rate increase would directly result in the subsequent closing of the two power stations in Adams County. We obtained documents showing that there were negotiations without us, as part of this rate increase, to close the plants in Adams County and to relocate operations in Dayton. Dayton was involved in those negotiations, but we were not. Dayton will be fine at the end of this. We face catastrophe, and this is the only place we can be heard, and the only time that you can bend history to save us.

Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony on this matter?

A. Yes sir it does.

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Summary: Testimony DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRIAN BALDRIDGE ON BEHALF OF
ADAMS COUNTY, OHIO
electronically filed by Mr. Mark Landes on behalf of Adams County Commissioners