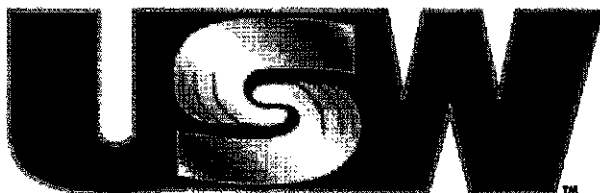


UNITED STEELWORKERS



FILE

District 1

UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS

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PUCO

David McCall  
District Director  
Gerald Johnston  
Co-Director  
David Caldwell  
Assistant to the Director

September 9, 2008

Dear Commissioners,

A move towards clean energy will transform and bolster Ohio's economy. The job opportunities for our union members through energy efficiency and renewable energy are immense. As said by Dave Foster of the Blue Green Alliance, "the quickest way to put America back to work is through investments that solve global warming." The Apollo Alliance estimates that for every \$1 million invested in energy efficiency, 21.5 jobs are created. The American Solar Energy Society affirms that renewable energy and energy-efficient industries created nearly 8.5 million jobs in 2006, and that number is expected to reach 40 million by 2030.

The Department of Energy estimates that 10% of the world's energy is used to operate buildings in the United States, and much of this energy is wasted through inefficient windows and equipment, poor insulation, and other features. Retrofitting buildings for efficiency involves all of the Building Trades. Investments in renewable energy employ steelworkers, manufacturers, and installers. According to the Political Economy Research Institute, the majority of these green jobs are in fields that well over 500,000 Ohioans already have employment. Increased demand for energy efficiency and renewable energy increases demand for workers and job security.

It is essential that the PUCO creates rules that allow Ohio to meet or exceed the efficiency and renewable standards set forth in the recently passed Energy Bill. If loopholes are permitted through the rulemaking process, the positive economic and labor impacts of the mandate will be greatly reduced. Furthermore, economic analysis suggests that incentives encouraging greater than the minimum participation from utilities and all classes of consumers would bolster Ohio's economy even more, creating additional jobs. Because efficiency reduces the cost of electric for all consumers by reducing the need to build new power plants, meeting or exceeding the efficiency standard is also good for industry by lowering electric rates.

United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International  
Union

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We ask the PUCO to:

1. Require electric utilities to meet the minimum energy efficiency targets without creating loopholes.
2. Ensure public confidence in energy efficiency achievements with consistent monitoring and verification programs.
3. Create fair incentives for utilities, businesses, and consumers to invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy
4. Reflect the legislative intent of creating Ohio jobs by creating rules that show preference for materials and products that are Ohio-made and support prevailing wage industries

Sincerely,

Dave Caldwell  
Legislative Coordinator  
United Steelworkers, District 1