

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** 

of Central Ohio Little Moments, Big Magic!

November 3, 2008

Mr. Alan Schriber, Chairman Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

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Office of Chalman P.U.C.O.

Re: Testimony on AEP Ohio's ESP Docket Numbers Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO Case No. 08-918-EL-SSO

Dear Mr. Schriber,

I am writing to you today to give testimony regarding American Electric Power's support for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio.

American Electric Power's (AEP) comprehensive approach to corporate citizenship is evident in its strong support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio. AEP has contributed resources and skills that have been instrumental in our ability to impact the lives of thousands of children.

AEP employees have been a consistent supporter of Bowl For Kids' Sake, our agency's major fundraiser. Since 2004, AEP has fielded 55 bowling teams consisting of a total of 275 AEP employees, their friends and families. The employees of AEP have raised a total of \$30,344 for our agency's programs.

AEP is also a partner in Project Mentor, our school-based mentoring program in the Columbus City Schools. Fifty-eight AEP employees mentored students during Year 1 of Project Mentor at AEP's three adopted Columbus City Schools: Georgian Heights Elementary School, Starling Middle School and Yorktown Middle School.

For the 2008-2009 school year, AEP plans to recruit additional mentors. AEP's support for Project Mentor also included an important leadership contribution to help fund the second year of Project Mentor.

In addition, children in our programs have benefited directly from AEP's generosity. Dozens of children enrolled in Big Brothers Big Sisters programs have been the excited recipients of bikes that the employees of AEP assembled as part of a team building exercise.

AEP is a true corporate partner to Big Brothers Big Sisters. Their contribution of both volunteers and resources has been instrumental in our ability to grow our programs, and serve ever increasing numbers of at-risk youth here in Central Ohio.

Edward N. Cohn President and CEO

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