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Hunter, Donielle

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Sent: Monday, August 10, 2009 11:05 AM
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Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Investigation and Audit Division

Memorandum

Date: 8/10/2009

Re: Samuel Cook
223 Putnam St

Marietta, OH 45750

Docketing Case No.: 09-516-EL-AEC

Notes:

Please docket the attached in the case number above.

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Washington County

COMMISSIONERS

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AUG 03 2009

Office of Chairman
P.U.C.O.

July 30, 2009

Mr. Alan R. Schriber, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
80 E Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Case #09-516-EL-AEC

Dear Chairman Schriber:

Referencing the above, the Board of Commissioners of Washington County empathizes with Eramet Marietta, Inc. in its attempt to secure more favorable electric rates so as to maintain sustainability in an internationally competitive industry. We are similarly aware of the contribution made by the Company to the economic vitality of Washington County and the Region. Eramet is a significant user of electric power and as such may warrant special consideration. Such would be especially true if commitments to modernize the facility with the objective of decreasing contributions to air pollution and modernizing the enterprise to improve competitiveness are made in a timely manner.

Comments have been made to this Commission that rate shifting of this nature will negatively impact other rate payers including them some large industrial and institutional power users. We feel that any benefit provided should be accompanied by a thorough analysis of the costs and benefits to the area as a whole and the effect of the precedent set for others who might be candidates for a similar request. The Ohio River Valley is replete with firms which have been impacted by increases in power rates.

We trust that you will review this request thoughtfully with all of its ramifications identified and examined. We have every confidence that you will develop your decision carefully with a comprehensive process which considers all the consequences both intentional and unintentional.

Thank you for this opportunity and best wishes with your challenging responsibilities.

Sincerely,
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Samuel R. Cook, President


Steven W. Weber


Cora A. Marshall

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and does not discriminate for reasons of race, gender, age, religion or disability.*