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June 6, 2011

Todd Snitchler, Chairman  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

**RE: AEP OHIO ESP – CASE NOS. 11-346-EL-SSO and 11-348-EL-SSO**

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

Please allow this letter to serve as the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association's (OMEGA) support for American Electric Power's Electricity Security Plan (ESP) referenced above.

It my understanding that the proposed ESP will encourage investments in electrical infrastructure and consumer programs within the state of Ohio.

As a regional council of governments and certified Economic Development District representing 10 counties in eastern Ohio with a population of over 593,000 citizens, OMEGA recognizes the critical role available funding for necessary infrastructure and other consumer services play in promoting economic development and enhancing the region's quality of life.

AEP's ESP introduces the Ohio Growth Fund, a \$25 million shareholder contribution designed to work in partnership with state and local agencies and private sector leaders to attract new investment and job growth throughout AEP's service area. Also, the Turning Point Solar project is of significant interest to OMEGA as it will lead to the creation of hundreds of new manufacturing jobs in Ohio.

In addition to the Ohio Growth Fund and Turning Point Solar project, the ESP provides for the continuation of AEP's Ohio Economic Development Mini Grant Program which assists local economic development organizations with funding to address local needs including, potential site evaluations, environmental assessments, website creation and upgrades, retention and expansion surveys, marketing campaigns, and workforce development.

Again, OMEGA strongly supports the specific economic development initiatives mentioned above as set forth by AEP's ESP.

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Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter. If you have any questions or feel that OMEGA may be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

THE OHIO MID-EASTERN  
GOVERNMENTS ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. L. DiDonato', written in a cursive style.

GREG L. DiDONATO  
Executive Director

GLD/ds