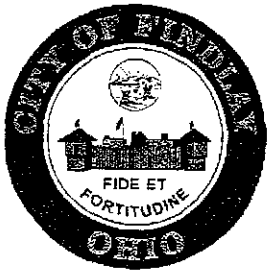


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October 6, 2011

11-346-EL-880

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

Dear Chairman Snitchler:

For the first time in eleven years of electric deregulation the City of Findlay has an opportunity to help its residents and small businesses save money on their electric service through the process of Governmental Aggregation. Findlay is in Ohio Power service area, and we are very concerned that the proposed settlement on AEP's Electric Security Plan (ESP) will effectively prohibit us from starting a program for at least the next several years.

AEP's proposed settlement, which was not approved by all interveners, includes unreasonable provisions which serve as caps or limitations on shopping and will limit the number of residents allowed to switch electric suppliers each year. Once this cap is hit, our community – and others like ours – will be effectively shut out from enjoying any savings. Hundreds of other Ohio communities in neighboring utilities are receiving savings through their aggregation programs. Why are we being penalized for being AEP customers? And why should AEP be able to dictate which groups of residents and businesses are allowed to save money on their electric bills?

It is the policy of Ohio to ensure effective competition in the provision of electric service – 4928.02 of the Ohio Revised Code – and it is the PUCO's mission to facilitate an environment that provides competitive choices. We ask that you encourage large-scale governmental aggregation as required by Ohio law – 4928.20(K) – by rejecting or significantly altering this settlement agreement to remove the caps. However, if the shopping caps are going to be implemented, we propose that governmental aggregation communities be exempted from the caps.

The reason our community has the potential for saving money on our electric generation supply is because competitive generation suppliers are interested in competing for our business. It is apparent that AEP is attempting to prevent competitive suppliers from serving the customers in their service area. And if they are successful, the people and businesses in communities like Findlay will miss out on these savings. Other communities in Ohio have this opportunity to save and so should we.

Sincerely,

Pete Sehnert  
Mayor

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