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October 12, 2011

Todd Snitschler
Chairman,
Public Utilities Commission, State of Ohio

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PUCO

Dear Mr. Snitschler:

I am writing to you to request that the PUCO, compel First Energy, one of Ohio's largest Investor-Owned Utilities to help their customers by saving them money through energy efficient investments. In 2008, the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 221, which set renewable and efficiency standards for the state's major investor owned utilities, including First Energy.

The 2009 & 2010 energy efficiency programs implemented by American Electric Power, Duke, and Dayton Power & Light saved enough money to power 181,000 homes for one year. First Energy has similar programs, but lags behind the others in creating savings through efficiency programs. First Energy customers deserve strong energy leadership from their utility!

Energy efficiency programs are creating jobs in the growing clean energy industry. Ohio has over 1,130 businesses that weatherize buildings, manufacture components for the efficiency industry, or sell efficient products. As First Energy increases their investment in efficiency, more jobs in Northern Ohio will be supported in these industries.

In addition to efficiency, First Energy should make plans to replace their old dirty coal fleet with new clean renewable generation-like wind and solar. Modern wind turbines can generate power for less money than a coal or nuclear power plant, and Ohio is a leader in the design and manufacturing of solar technologies.

Coal emits high levels of pollution into the air. Fine particulates, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, mercury, lead, arsenic carbon monoxide and volatile organic compounds pose risks to human health. Together, they can affect our respiratory, cardiovascular and nervous systems, can cause diseases such as asthma and cancer, and can lead to developmental disabilities in babies and children. Coal plants are also the greatest emitter of carbon dioxide, a primary

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cause of climate change. For all these reasons, I strongly urge, the PUCO to use its influence to bring about a change in First Energy's attitude and actions.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas Weiler
1132 Brandon Rd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44112.
(216) 321-1697