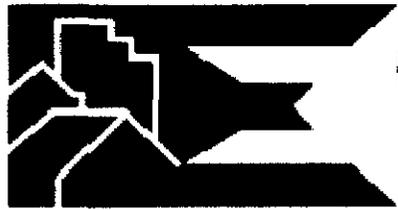


FILED



Ohio Municipal League

Our Cities and Villages ★ Bringing Ohio to Life

February 16, 2012

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Docketing Division, RE: Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO
180 E. Broad Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

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2012 FEB 22 AM 11:47
PUCO

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Ohio Municipal League (OML), I'm writing to encourage you to stand behind the modified settlement in AEP Ohio's Electric Security Plan (ESP) case, namely the provisions allowing communities across Ohio to benefit from electric aggregation programs approved through Election Day ballot measures last fall.

Founded in 1952, the OML represents the collective interests of Ohio's cities and villages before the Ohio General Assembly and the state's administrative offices. Since 2001, hundreds of these communities around the state have reduced their energy costs through aggregation programs. In fact, Ohio's two largest aggregators have collectively saved their members more than \$100 million by combining their residents and businesses into a single, large buying group.

We were very encouraged when the Commission took steps last December to modify the settlement and ensure that these communities could fully realize the potential savings benefits of these programs. Our members are eager to put these programs in place and have already begun the detailed opt-out process that is required under Ohio state law.

But, until the Commission re-affirms the pro-aggregation provisions that were inserted into the settlement, these benefits may be unattainable for the new aggregation communities currently served by AEP Ohio, including the larger mercantile customers interested in opting into these programs. It would permit AEP Ohio to further limit the number of customers who can leave the utility by extending the caps limiting how many customers can shop with a competitive supplier each year through 2014.

In light of overwhelming community support for aggregation displayed on Election Day, we ask that you uphold these programs by re-affirming the modifications your members ordered into the AEP Ohio settlement agreement in December. We strongly believe it will play a vital role in Ohio's continued economic recovery.

Thanks for your attention on this issue. Please docket this letter in AEP Ohio's ESP case number 11-346-EL-SSO.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Cave
Executive Director

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