



City of NAPOLEON, Ohio

253 West Riverview Avenue • P.O. Box 151

Napoleon, Ohio 43545-0151

Phone: (419) 592-4010 • Fax: (419) 599-8393

Web Page: www.napoleonohio.com

August 21, 2012

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

Case Number: 10-501-EL-FOR

Dear Chairman Snitchler,

I am writing in support of the Turning Point Solar (TPS) project, under development by AEP in Noble County, Ohio. The solar panels for this project will be manufactured in Napoleon at the Isofoton North America (INA) factory. The project supports the efforts we are taking in northwest Ohio to employ the state's returning veterans. As a "first career" retired veteran (Lt Col, U.S. Air Force) and a command bomber pilot with over 100 combat missions in Vietnam and now the City Manager of Napoleon, Ohio, this effort is near and dear to my military heart.

In addition to my duties as Napoleon City Manager, I have the honor to chair the Board of Trustees of American Municipal Power, Inc. (AMP). We are preparing to showcase the ribbon-cutting ceremony for our new solar generation facility, where we have worked closely with the Ohio-based "Solar by Soldiers" non-profit organization to employ Ohio vets in the construction process. Located near the Isofoton North America factory in Napoleon, this project will bring on-line the largest public power solar projects in the state of Ohio to date and consists of more than 17,000 solar panels provided by Isofoton generating 3.54 MW of renewable energy to municipal electric communities across the region.

I am joined in the statewide cause to give back to our vets what they have so unselfishly given to us, by Isofoton's North America Chairman, Michael Alden Peck. He is also a veteran with twenty years of military service in the U.S. Navy and Naval Reserves. Michael retired in 1996 with the rank of Commander. In 1981 while on active duty, Michael was the recipient of the Commander In Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe leadership award.

Under Michael's leadership and with full approval by Isofoton's current shareholders, INA is currently "at 36% vets now and targeting 50% vets for salary-level positions once they complete that part of their hiring process

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for 2012 as soon as the Turning Point Solar project (TPS) is approved. INA intends to reach higher than 60% vets once they begin, again - post TPS-approval, to hire production floor hourly-wage workers to reach their full complement of 122 personnel by end of 2012".

As proof of this principle, INA has hired a USAF veteran as their human resource director, Jason Gongwer, and is working to hire every single possible Ohio vet they can.

This is a good story that deserves our collective respect but not a new one for Isofoton. They announced their intention to prioritize hiring Ohio vets over three years ago when first seeding the option of building their all-Americas manufacturing project in Ohio.

I am quite proud to say that two of my sons are serving on active duty; one has just completed his fourth deployment. When they complete their service, I hope there is a company like Isofoton to hire them.

Please help us move forward with Isofoton North America by supporting the Turning Point Solar project.

Sincerely,

Jon A. Bisher
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Jon A. Bisher
City Manager

JAB:rd

cc: Governor John Kasich
Commissioner Steven Lesser
Commissioner Andre Porter
Commissioner Cheryl Roberto
Commissioner Lynn Slaby