November <u></u>, 2012

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV 2012 NOV 16 PM 3: 18 PUCO

Buckeye Wind Project--Case No.: <u>12-0160-EL-BGN</u> Ohio Power Siting Board 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

To the Ohio Power Siting Board,

This letter is to express my support for the proposed Buckeye II Wind Project in Champaign County. As a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers – Local 18: Ohio Operating Engineers, I can speak personally to the economic opportunities that are possible because of this project. The opportunities are real as our members have seen with the construction of other wind projects in Ohio.

While the project will no doubt benefit the environment with clean energy and the local community with an increased tax base, I can speak to the economic boon this project will afford both local and state workers.

- Approx. \$300 million invested by EverPower in both phases of the project.
- Hundreds of construction and manufacturing jobs and many ongoing operational jobs
- Approx. \$2 million in construction materials from local vendors to install the projects
- Low long-term energy costs and no volatile fuel expenses
- Jumpstart an economic engine that continues to provide work for over 100 Ohio companies that serve the wind industry

Additional Comments here and on back:

Thank you for taking the time to hear the public's opinions on this project. My fellow union members and I cannot wait to continue building strong winds, strong economy and strong community in this county and throughout the state. Your certification of this project will allow us to do so.

Sincerely. Signature LANCE E. ESTER Print Name 306 PEARL ST CINT: Oh. 45215 Address 937-902-6965 Phone Number

Mail ASAP to the address at the top of the letter the second state of the second state

rnis is to certify that the imager syneaxing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business fechnician \_\_\_\_\_ Date Processed NOV 1.6-2012