

LABORERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL OF OHIO

President: Robert E. Richardson
Vice President: Anthony Liberatore Jr.
Sergeant-At-Arms: Perry Johnson
Executive Board Members:

Terry Joyce
Curt Mayle
Robert McCaskill

Auditors:
Rocky DiGennaro
Clint Powell
Jody Stringer

Affiliated with:
Laborers' International Union of North America-AFL-CIO
Ohio State Building & Construction Trades Council
Ohio AFL-CIO



Ralph E. Cole
Business Manager
Kenny Holland
Secretary Treasurer

October 9, 2014

The Honorable John Kasich
Governor of Ohio
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Dear Governor Kasich:

Ohio's power plants create thousands of union jobs and produce major infrastructure projects that put our members to work.

We are greatly concerned that numerous power plants in Ohio have permanently shut down in recent years, and many more are expected to close in the years ahead. Further decline in Ohio's electric power industry could cost thousands of union jobs and discourage industrial development opportunities across the state.

This is an outcome Ohio cannot afford. Already, a struggling economy and other factors have led to reductions in operations and capital improvement expenditures at numerous power production and manufacturing facilities across Ohio. Industrial construction hours for certain segments of the industry are down 53 percent from 2008, very much to the detriment of our members and Ohio's economy.

Consistent with our interest in creating construction job opportunities, we're urging your support of FirstEnergy's proposed Electric Security Plan, *Powering Ohio's Progress*. FirstEnergy's plan strikes the right balance between keeping electricity affordable for customers while helping to ensure the continued operation of Ohio power plants, including the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant in Oak Harbor, the W.H. Sammis Plant in Stratton, and the OVEC plant in Gallipolis, Ohio. These plants provide a huge economic benefit to the state of Ohio. Together, the ongoing operations of these plants create an economic impact in the state of more than \$1 billion annually, and directly and indirectly support an estimated 3,000 jobs.

Unless we take action, the long-term viability of these plants – along with the jobs and substantial economic opportunities they bring to our members – may be at risk. We respectfully request that you support this plan to keep energy affordable and protect Ohio jobs. Thank you for your consideration, and please contact me if I can be of any assistance. In the meantime, we would appreciate it if your staff could docket this letter as part of the record in this proceeding (PUCO Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO).

Best regards,


Ralph E. Cole
Business Manager


Kenny Holland
Secretary Treasurer

cc: PUCO Chairman Thomas W. Johnson

PUCO

2014 OCT 15 PM 12:30

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV