

FILE

January 7, 2016

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO)
180 East Broad St
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Commissioners,

I am deeply opposed to the idea that we, the citizens and taxpayers of Ohio, might be forced to subsidize aging, dirty, and inefficient coal-fired power plants, thereby denying the energy market the ability to phase out these vestigial production facilities through normal economic processes. Whether one is concerned about free-market efficiency or environmental impact, there is no rational justification for propping up these economically and environmentally untenable power plants.

Please DO NOT approve the electricity rate increases requested by Duke Energy, AEP, and First Energy (case numbers 14-1297-EL-SSO and 14-1693-EL-SSO).

I, like many, many of my fellow Ohioans, was dismayed at our Ohio legislature's recent decision to freeze Ohio's clean energy standards. Ohio should be leading the transition away from environmentally damaging fossil fuels towards nuclear, wind, solar, geothermal, and other more sensible, long-term energy sources however we can. While natural gas-powered electricity generation is far from ideal – it is, after all, still a carbon-emitting fossil fuel – it is FAR preferable to coal as an energy source. And no, no one actually believes there is such a thing as "clean coal."

Thank you for considering this appeal.

Sincerely,



Craig Froehle, PhD
Business Professor, University of Cincinnati

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