

**Hunter, Donielle**

**From:** John Colm <John@wire-net.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2016 4:05 PM  
**To:** Puco Docketing  
**Subject:** Regarding Cases 14-1693 and 14-1297

PUCO

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Re: Cases 14-1297 and 14-1693

The Board of Directors of the Westside Industrial Retention and Expansion Network (aka WIRE-Net) voted today to oppose the AEP (14-1693) and FE (14-1297) Power Purchase Agreement Riders.

The interests of over 350 WIRE-Net member companies and their 20,000 Ohio employees are not well served by these proposed PPAs.

Included among our chief concerns regarding docket number FE: 14-1297 and AEP: 14-1693 are the following points:

- the cost to Ohio consumers, including commercial/industrial electricity consumers, will total \$5.9 billion over 8 years;
- electric customers will pay a generation surcharge with no new benefits and will absorb all the risk of higher rates while the utilities are guaranteed a 10.38% ROE and full cost recovery of the affected inefficient coal and nuclear plants;
- the analysis further shows that consumers cannot avoid the additional costs as even consumers who negotiate for electric power from providers other than FirstEnergy or AEP must pay the higher non-bypassable rates, essentially paying twice for generation service;
- the PPAs are inconsistent with Ohio's transition to a competitive electricity market and will stifle innovation and more competitive electric rates; and
- Ohio will suffer economic harm from the resulting disincentive to invest in new generation that will drive prices upward and undermine economic development and job creation; and
- Finally, the utilities have organized a redistributive coalition that is a façade of broad support for the PPAs that represents neither the interests of most Ohio manufacturers nor the members of WIRE-Net,

Best Regards,

John Colm

President & Executive Director

WIRE-Net and GLWN  
4855 W. 130<sup>th</sup>, Suite 1  
Cleveland, OH 44135-5137  
USA

Direct: 216-588-1445  
[www.wire-net.org](http://www.wire-net.org)

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