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2016 MAR -4 PM 3:49

PUCO



March 1, 2016

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Opposition Comment to PPA Cases 14-1693-EL-RDR; 14-1297-EL-SSO

Dear PUCO:

We at Owens Corning urge you to reject the negotiated settlements of First Energy, American Electric Power and others that will enable the utilities to implement costly Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) riders and other cost-driving provisions that are unfair to all Ohio consumers.

PUCO approval of these deals will allow utilities to collect costs via non-by-passable PPA riders from their customers to subsidize their uneconomical generation assets. This profit and cost-recovery guarantee will be unfairly placed on the backs of their customers for an eight-year term. The Ohio's Consumers Counsel estimates that the combined First Energy and AEP settlements could cost consumers a total of nearly \$6 billion over the PPAs' eight-year duration.

Our Newark, Mount Vernon and Granville facilities alone consume 181,000 MWH annually. We estimate the additional costs to these three facilities to be \$4 Million over three years with further costs to our other Ohio facilities. Owens Corning has operated numerous facilities in Ohio for over seven decades and has employed tens of thousands of Ohio residents. Today, Ohio is home to our World Headquarters (Toledo), Global Research and Development (Granville) and manufacturing plants in Newark, Mount Vernon, Tallmadge and Medina. These rate increases diminish funds that could be better used for capital investment, infrastructure improvements, and training, all of which lend themselves to job growth, capital expansion and benefit our more than 2,400 Ohio employees and all of Ohio.

If approved, these anti-competitive deals will add unnecessary layers of costs to all consumers with no commensurate benefits. It will constrain competition and potentially dampen technological innovation in Ohio. Approval of these deals will also be a massive setback to the consumer-friendly efficiency of the Ohio electricity markets.

As a 70 year resident of this state, and a global manufacturing leader, we must ensure that our Ohio operations remain competitive. Please protect the competitiveness of Ohio manufacturers and protect all consumers in FirstEnergy and AEP territories from this unfair rate hike considered by many to be a "give-away".

Very truly yours,

Michael McMurray
Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

cc: Governor John Kasich
State Senator Clifford Hite
State Representative Robert McColley

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