

FILE



**SENATOR  
LOU GENTILE**  
ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP  
30TH DISTRICT

**Committees**  
Agriculture - Ranking Member  
Energy and Natural Resources -  
Ranking Member  
Finance  
Finance - Subcommittee  
General Government  
Financial Institutions  
Rules and Reference  
Transportation, Commerce, and Labor  
Public Utilities

August 11, 2016

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

Attn: Asim Haque, Chairman

Re: FirstEnergy ESP IV  
Docket #: 14-1297-EL-SSO

PUCO

2016 AUG 16 AM 9:48

RECEIVED-DOCKETING UNIT

Dear Chairman Haque:

On behalf of the constituents of the 30<sup>th</sup> Senate District, I write to impress upon you the importance of having a safe, reliable and robust electric sector in Ohio for the well-being of all Ohioans and Ohio's economic vitality.

FirstEnergy currently has a proposal before you that works to strengthen its commitment to the modernizing of the grid system, economic development, low-income assistance, a clean energy future, and secures their corporate headquarters for years into the future. The PUCO unanimously approved FirstEnergy's plan in March 2016 resolving all of the issues in the case, but now the primary provision remains pending on rehearing. Quick resolution of this matter will provide certainty regarding the value provided under the plan because the commitments will bring greater service and reliability to customers and better position my district to attract and retain jobs.

As you know, the Sammis generating station located in my senate district employs 350 people with an annual payroll of over \$34 million, and FirstEnergy pays \$5.5 million annually in property taxes. The job numbers grow larger as indirect benefits from external contractors, household spending, and property ownership are considered. The jobs sustained by this facility have a significant impact on the people, businesses, and communities of Jefferson County, and I remain committed to their success.

Ensuring that our electric system provides reliable, safe, and affordable energy to consumers is an important tool for attracting and retaining jobs in my district and the state of Ohio. It is important to me that we balance the needs of both the provider and the consumers during regulatory decisions, and create guidelines that encourage long-term economic growth.

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business. AUG 16 2016  
Technician DMK Date Processed



**SENATOR  
LOU GENTILE**  
ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP  
30TH DISTRICT

**Committees**

Agriculture - Ranking Member  
Energy and Natural Resources -  
Ranking Member  
Finance  
Finance - Subcommittee  
General Government  
Financial Institutions  
Rules and Reference  
Transportation, Commerce, and Labor  
Public Utilities

Thank you for your careful consideration of the proposal by First Energy.

Sincerely,

Senator Lou Gentile  
Assistant Minority Whip  
Senate District 30