



October 4, 2016

Chairman Asim Z. Haque
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Case no. 16-395-EL-SSO

Dear Chairman Haque:

I am pleased to write this letter on behalf of the Dayton Early College Academy (DECA) in support of Dayton Power and Light.

DECA is an early college high school that offers Dayton Public School students a one-of-a-kind opportunity to excel academically and succeed in their goal of graduating from college. DECA was the first early college high school in the state of Ohio. Today, DECA serves senior high school students who are underrepresented in higher education, unprepared academically to meet college readiness standards and unable to pay for college.

We are so grateful to the community partners who help us perform this mission, such as Dayton Power and Light and the Dayton Power and Light Foundation for facilitating our goal of preparing the college students of tomorrow with solid values, a culture of achievement and people who believe in them.

In 2012, The Dayton Power and Light Foundation providing funding to help fund the establishment of DECA PREP, a K-6 charter elementary to provide the students in Dayton quality instruction based on a foundation of character development to prepare them for a rigorous college prep high school. In August, 2016, we opened DECA Middle to serve grades 5-8, completing a kindergarten through 12th grade urban school system.

Dayton Power and Light also sponsors two of our students to make the trip to Washington, D.C. as part of the Dayton Development Coalition's Annual Community Leader Fly-In event meeting with elected officials. The students gain valuable knowledge on how the government and officials are working to promote the Miami Valley and Ohio. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for our students and DP&L has provided this opportunity for twelve of our students to date.

Dayton Power and Light has proven its value as a community partner to our programming and we appreciate their support. I can be reached at 937-414-0869 or jhennessey@daytonearlycollege.org if additional information would prove helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Hennessey". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Judy Hennessey, Ph.D.
Superintendent and CEO

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Summary: Public Comment in support filed on behalf of the Dayton Early College Academy by Judy Hennessey, Superintendent and CEO electronically filed by Ms. Donielle M Hunter on behalf of PUCO Staff