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Senate of Pennsylvania

February 24, 2011

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Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary
Public Utility Commission
3rd Floor
Keystone Building
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

I am writing in regard to the proposed merger of First Energy and Allegheny Energy, which I was notified this morning was on the Public Utility Commission's meeting agenda.

I am respectfully requesting that the Public Utility Commission (PUC) members give strong consideration to ensuring that the parties adhere to the terms included in the partial settlement that has been filed before the Commission of the retention of jobs in the Greensburg area a result of the First Energy and Allegheny Power merger.

Also, I am requesting that the PUC strongly emphasize that retraining be required for any of the current Allegheny Energy employees before any individuals are transferred or hired for any southwestern Pennsylvania positions. In addition, the Commission should emphasize that as First Energy begins the transition process that the Allegheny Power (Greensburg) employees are given the first opportunity for any new positions that are moved into southwestern Pennsylvania. However, I strongly support and encourage any job growth by First Energy in this region.

Additionally, we are asking that no changes be made to the partial settlement terms that require approximately \$11 million in customer credits for West Penn Power residential customers over a three year period.

Thank you in advance for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kim Ward", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kim Ward
Senator

cc: Commissioners
June Perry