



Chris Kershner
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
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Good afternoon, commissioner (s) and PUCO representatives. My name is Chris Kershner and I am Vice President of Public Policy & Economic Development for the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce. The Dayton Area Chamber represents over 2,700 businesses throughout the greater Dayton region, which employ over 200,000 individuals. We are the 25th largest Chamber of Commerce in the nation, which is a testament to the integrity and health of our region's business community.

I am here today to testify in support of DP&L's proposed rate adjustment. DP&L is one of the most significant employers and corporate philanthropists in the Dayton region. With over 1,300 employees, DP&L's impact on jobs, families and our economy permeates throughout the region and right here in the City of Dayton. Companies of this size and economic impact should not be taken lightly. It is extremely important that as a business community and state and

local governments, we provide the necessary support to help our employer community thrive and continue to support good paying jobs for good families in our community. If businesses like DP&L are not economically healthy, it will have radiating effect and our community and jobs will suffer.

DP&L has invested in new facilities, new infrastructure and new transmission lines, so that they can provide better and more efficient service to our business community and residents throughout the region. It is with a broad vision and desire to provide excellent service to their customers that has driven DP&L to continue to invest into this critical infrastructure. Now, for the financial integrity of the company and to service the debt incurred for these investments, DP&L needs to recoup some of these costs. This request is not out of line and is similar to any other utility company throughout the world that needs to cover their costs. A matter of fact, I would commend DP&L for having the foresight to make these investments so that they can continue excellent electric service for our community, which supports businesses, jobs and families throughout the Dayton region.

Thank you for having me today and would be happy to answer any questions today or in the future.