



**Ohio Association of
Community Action Agencies**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Kathryn A. Clausen
(614) 224-8500
kathryn@oacaa.org

PRESS RELEASE

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OACAA backs AEP Ohio's solar-power proposal, rejects PUCO staff recommendation

COLUMBUS — On Friday, a recommendation by the staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio was issued against American Electric Power's bid to develop a twenty-first century solar farm in Highland County stating "supply is sufficient to meet the needs of customers." The Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) rejects that reasoning and stands in favor of the positive impacts the project would bring to our state.

The proposed project is about more than producing "sufficient" energy production; it is about being prepared for the future and enhancing economic growth within our state. The project not only brings renewable energy at the cost of pennies per month, but it also adds 150 permanent and good-paying jobs in Highland County.

"The extremely small charge to consumers would be overwhelmingly returned with quality jobs and economic growth," said Philip E. Cole, executive director at OACAA. "We strongly support this project and hope the PUCO will reject the recommendation of staff and allow Ohio to continue to build for the future and prosper."

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Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other. Community Action Agencies work to alleviate poverty and empower low-income families in their communities. The Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies represents 48 agencies around the state serving the needs of low-income people in all of Ohio's 88 counties. CAAs provide education and training, emergency services, and other assistance programs to over 700,000 Ohioans annually.