



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF OHIO

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Statement of the League of Women Voters of Ohio

on

The Final Report of the Energy Mandates Study Committee

September 30, 2015

The Energy Mandates Study Committee has missed an opportunity to inform Ohioans of the reasons for the soaring cost of electricity. The committee heard PUCO testimony that renewables and efficiency are tiny parts of the cost problem. Neither can the reason for higher costs be higher prices for coal and natural gas, which actually have been falling for several years.

The most likely causes of higher electric bills are miscellaneous charges approved by PUCO, called ‘riders’, which are not spelled out on consumers’ electric bills and are difficult to find information on. We urge the Study Committee to re-convene and recommend a strategy for stopping excessive price rises. As a first step, Ohio should enact a law requiring all riders to be listed on all electric bills, as is done in Michigan. This is a proper subject for the Electric Mandates Study Committee, since riders are mandates on customers – pay your bill or your lights go off.

Please direct any questions to Al Rosenfield, LWVO Energy Specialist; 614-486-8892 or alanpeg@alum.mit.edu.