



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF OHIO**

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Governor John Kasich  
Riffe Center, 30th Floor  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger  
Riffe Bldg., 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

Senate President Keith Faber  
Ohio Statehouse  
1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

November 11, 2016

Re: Consideration of Energy Policy

Dear Governor Kasich, Senate President Faber, and House Speaker Rosenberger,

Ohio energy policy is a complex topic that should not be rushed.

Residential electric rates are spiraling out of control. It is not clear why they have been rising at twice the rate of inflation for the past several years. The higher cost does not mean that we are paying for a new and improved product. It is the same electricity that we always have used – only the price is higher. Since electricity is a necessity, it is proper that it is subject to state oversight. But, somehow, Ohio has let us down and allowed the severe price inflation.

It is with this background that we express concern about the approach taken in the General Assembly. It appears that the legislature is only considering one small element of the price rise – clean energy. The vast bulk of the rise is being ignored. This is opposite to the cares of the average Ohioan, who is concerned about his electric bill and not the number of wind farms in the state.

In addition to the major issue of residential price inflation, there are many complex and controversial clean energy issues, such as the renewables freeze and wind farm setbacks, that need to be resolved.

We do not believe that such a complex issue can possibly get a fair and thorough hearing during the rushed “lame duck” session. Therefore, we recommend that new clean energy legislation be delayed until the next session.

Thank you,

Alison Ricker,  
LWVO Co-president

Mary Kirtz Van Nortwick,  
LWVO Co-president

Alan R. Rosenfield, ScD FASM  
LWVO Energy Specialist