City of WHITEHALL
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March 3, 2016

Matt Greeson
The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Executive Committee, Chair
111 Liberty Street, Suite 100
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Support Recommendations from Joint SAC & Roundtable meeting on Ohio Energy Mandates

Dear Chair Greeson,

Last week, a joint meeting of the members of Regional Policy Roundtable and Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) met to discuss the possibility of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) reaching a consensus position on the recommendations provided by the Ohio Energy Mandates Study Committee. Unfortunately, due to a previous commitment, I could not attend today's Executive Committee meeting, however I felt it was necessary to express my support of these positions.

Having served on the 2016 Public Policy Agenda Working group, and as current Vice-Chair of the Regional Policy Roundtable, I know MORPC strives to promote energy efficiency and an abundant supply of safe, reliable, and affordable sources of energy for our region. It is for this reason, and more, that I support the recommended legislative actions provided by members who attended a joint meeting regarding Ohio's Energy Mandates.

For each of the five recommended actions provided by the Ohio Energy Mandates Study Committee, the group reached a consensus recommended legislative approach for MORPC to take. Most importantly, these recommended approaches match with both MORPC's 2016 Public Policy Agenda and 2015-16 Regional Sustainability Agenda.

The following recommended approaches are provided in **bold** below:

1. Extend the SB 310 Freeze Indefinitely
   - **Actively oppose the indefinite freeze.**

2. Provide an Expedited Process at the PUCO for the Review of New Utility Plans for Energy Efficiency
   - **No action.**

3. Investigate and Ensure Maximum Credit for all of Ohio's Energy Initiatives
   - **Actively supportive of appropriate credits and recommend taking a closer look at details.**

4. Switch from Energy Mandates to Energy Incentives
   - **Actively support of a combination of mandates and incentives, with the idea that incentives will help meet the mandates.**

5. Declare the General Assembly Retains Statutory Authority with Respect to Energy Policy and Dispatch Protocols
   - **No action.**

At the meeting, MORPC staff and members thoroughly illustrated their expertise on the issue. They provided attendees with valuable insight on the history of Ohio's Energy mandates and the current legislative climate at the Statehouse. Each recommendation was voted unanimously by all who were present.

Lastly, MORPC's committee structure was effectively put to action at this joint meeting by giving SAC, Regional Policy Roundtable, and Executive Committee members the opportunity to deliberate on each recommendation. This productive meeting would not have been possible without the collaborative leadership of Chair Steve Stolte and Chair Steve Campbell.

I strongly urge my colleagues on MORPC's Executive Committee to support the proposed recommended legislative actions, and I would be happy to further discuss my support of these recommendations with other members whenever convenient with their schedules.

Sincerely,

Kim Maggard

Kim Maggard
Mayor of Whitehall