

December 21, 2020

Honorable Mike DeWine  
Governor of Ohio  
77 S. High Street  
30<sup>th</sup> floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Gov. DeWine:

The recent resignation of Sam Randazzo as chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and the circumstances that prompted it, make it imperative that the public have confidence in the person installed as his successor. Public trust in the commission can only be restored with full disclosure of the nominee's ties to the utilities that it regulates.

Even several finalists for the job stressed the need for Ohio to restore confidence in the PUCO.

Republican Gene Krebs, for example, wrote in his application for the opening, "The civic capacity of the state is being eroded by the drip drip drip of allegations and federal investigations into how our utilities are regulated." And State Rep. Sean O'Brien, a Democrat, included this in his letter of interest: "Ohio's position as a national leader in utilities management and planning for the new energy economy has been tarnished and must be repaired."

To help restore faith in the commission's important work, the undersigned respectfully ask that you require all finalists to disclose to you and the public all work they have done with utilities, their consultants and lobbyists over the past 10 years and include the nature of the work performed and the amount of compensation received.

Only through extraordinary circumstances did the public learn the extent of Mr. Randazzo's ties to utilities, and some potential successors have omitted important information about their utility connections.

Despite the FBI's ongoing investigation, the PUCO's important mission continues. Please help advance the public trust in its mission by requiring full disclosure from its members.

Thank you very much for considering this important request.

Sincerely,

Douglas Jones, Director Emeritus National Regulatory Research Institute

Tom Roberts, NAACP Ohio Conference

Brandi Slaughter, Ohio Council of Churches

Joe Hallett, Toledo Blade, The Plain Dealer, Columbus Dispatch 1985-2014

Jen Miller, League of Women Voters of Ohio

Catherine Turcer, Common Cause Ohio

T.C. Brown, The Plain Dealer 1989-2006

Ted Wendling, The Plain Dealer 1999-2006

Will Skora, Open Cleveland

Jim Underwood, Horvitz Newspaper, The Plain Dealer 1985-1993