

## EXPLAINING THE ELECTRIC AGGREGATION ISSUE FOR MEDINA COUNTY

Ohio law allows for communities – such as townships, cities and counties – to form aggregated buying groups to purchase electric generation on behalf of their citizens.

# The question on the $May\ 4^{th}\ ballot\ is,$ DO YOU WANT YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO HELP YOU SHOP FOR THE BEST PRICE?

On May 4th, voters in 15 Townships (Brunswick Hills, Chatham, Granger, Guilford, Harrisville, Hinckley, Lafayette, Litchfield, Liverpool, Medina, Montville, Sharon, Wadsworth, Westfield, and York) will get the opportunity to decide if they want to authorize the county to aggregate the retail electrical loads in their respective townships and to enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the purchase and sale of electricity. Aggregating the townships for group purchasing of electric power will provide greater buying power for every resident and business in a competitive market.

SAMPLE BALLOT LANGUAGE  OFFICAL QUESTIONS AND ISSUES BALLOT  PRIMARY ELECTION – MAY 4, 2010  PROPOSED ELECTRIC AGGREGATION  TOWNSHIP  A Majority Affirmative Vote is Necessary for Passage
Shall the Board of Medina County Commissioners have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located in the Township of, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity, such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person elects to opt out?  YES □ NO □

# But the final choice will still be yours.

#### WHAT DOES YOUR VOTE MEAN?

# **VOTING YES FOR THE ISSUE**

- Means that you agree to allow the Board of Medina County Commissioners in cooperation with your Township Trustees to serve as your buying agent and go out on the open market to try and get the best price for electricity for your home or business.
- Means that you will still have the ability to choose not to participate in the county program if you want to stay or go with another electric supplier.

#### **VOTING NO ON THE ISSUE**

• Means that you don't want the county government to serve as your buying agent.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF THE ISSUE IS PASSED BY A MAJORITY OF VOTERS?

After approval of the ballot issue, the County Commissioners along with a countywide task force composed of township officials will:

- implement a detailed plan for the aggregation program that includes:
  - a 6% discount on the Price to Compare (i.e. generation rate) for residential customers,
  - o 4% discount on the Price to Compare for small business (up to 199 KWd), and a
  - o a one-time community grant payment to Medina County and your township in 2010 that is equal to \$30 per customer enrolled in the program.
- hold two public hearings before adopting the plan.

• notify every Ohio Edison/ First Energy power customer about the program and allow them to choose not to participate in the county program, without any penalty or charge. Every three years, thereafter, First Energy customers will be given the chance to optout of the county program without charge.

#### ARE ALL TOWNSHIP ELECTRIC COSTUMERS AFFECTED BY THIS ISSUE?

**No**. Only those electric power customers being served by Ohio Edison/ First Energy will be aggregated into the County-Township program. Under Ohio law, those currently being served by either Lorain-Medina Rural Electric Authority or one the municipal power facilities of Wadsworth City, Seville Village or Lodi Village are not eligible for this program.

### WHAT IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS ISSUE OR DEREGULATION?

For more information about this ballot issue or about electric deregulation in the First Energy/ Ohio Edison service area please visit the Medina County Website at <a href="https://www.co.medina.oh.us">www.co.medina.oh.us</a> or contact us at:

Medina County Commissioners,

144 North Broadway Street, Medina, OH 44256. (330-722-9208)