



A unit of American Electric Power

News from AEP Ohio

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AEP OHIO AWARDS GRANT TO INTERNATIONAL PAPER IN KENTON TO SUPPORT GROWTH

GAHANNA, Ohio, Aug. 3, 2015 — AEP Ohio, a unit of American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP), awarded a Rate Stabilization Program, Retention and Expansion Grant to International Paper (NYSE: IP). The grant helped secure a 250,000 square foot expansion of the Kenton plant, doubling its current manufacturing space at this location.

The facility is part of International Paper's Foodservice business, which manufactures fiber-based hot and cold cups, food buckets and containers, plates and lids for the foodservice industry. The expansion is expected to create 125 new jobs and retain 532 jobs at the Kenton plant.

The AEP Ohio Economic Development Rate Stabilization Plan grant program provides financial assistance to new and existing industries for expansion projects that create new jobs, retain existing jobs and generate new investment within the AEP Ohio service territory. Funds are designated to assist with the cost of utility infrastructure and are based on criteria, including: jobs, investment, demonstration of need, and assistance from additional funding sources.

"AEP Ohio is proud to be a strong partner to the communities that we serve," said Tim Wells, manager, Economic and Business Development. "By working with businesses and chambers in our local communities to attract new jobs and maintain existing jobs, we are able to help our communities flourish. International Paper is a cornerstone of the business community in Hardin County whose continued investment in the community highlights the competitive characteristics of Kenton, Hardin County and the State of Ohio."

"International Paper is expanding to support the organic growth of our customers and the increased demand in the marketplace for our products," said Tracy Pearson, vice president and general manager, IP Foodservice. "We are pleased to work with AEP Ohio so that we can continue to expand and offer more jobs to the people of Kenton and surrounding areas."

AEP Ohio offers a variety of grants for new and expanding businesses. For more information, visit AEPOhio.com.

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AEP Ohio provides electricity to nearly 1.5 million customers of major AEP subsidiary Ohio Power Company in Ohio. AEP Ohio is based in Gahanna, Ohio, and is a unit of American Electric Power. News and information about AEP Ohio can be found at AEPOhio.com.

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American Electric Power is one of the largest electric utilities in the United States, delivering electricity to more than 5.3 million customers in 11 states. AEP ranks among the nation's largest generators of electricity, owning nearly 32,000 megawatts of generating capacity in the U.S. AEP also owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a 40,000-mile network that includes more 765-kilovolt extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. AEP's transmission system directly or indirectly serves about 10 percent of the electricity demand in the Eastern Interconnection, the interconnected transmission system that covers 38 eastern and central U.S. states and eastern Canada, and approximately 11 percent of the electricity demand in ERCOT, the transmission system that covers much of Texas. AEP's utility units operate as AEP Ohio, AEP Texas, Appalachian Power (in Virginia and West Virginia), AEP Appalachian Power (in Tennessee), Indiana Michigan Power, Kentucky Power, Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and Southwestern Electric Power Company (in Arkansas, Louisiana and east Texas). AEP's headquarters are in Columbus, Ohio. News releases and other information about AEP can be found at AEP.com.

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