

**Gary Roncelli, CEO, Roncelli Inc. - Monday, April 13, 2015**

Good Afternoon, Chairman Nesbitt, Vice Chairs Glenn and LaVoy, and distinguished members of the committee:

My name is Gary Roncelli and I am the chief executive officer of Roncelli Inc., a privately owned Macomb County construction company with ongoing operations in the United States, Canada and Mexico. We have been in business for nearly 50 years and are proud of our “boots on the ground” heritage.

I thank you for this opportunity to comment on the future of Michigan’s energy policy and our strong support for the energy chairman’s legislation.

And here’s why:

**(3) Bullet Points**

- University of Michigan economists in their annual forecast predict nearly 60,000 new jobs for 2015 and another 73,000 in 2016.
- The state added 39,000 new jobs from November 2013 to November 2014, and the state unemployment rate has fallen from 7.8 percent to 6.7 percent as of November 2014.
- Since 2010, the state has added 86,000 manufacturing jobs.

\* These are strong Michigan numbers that are trending upward.

**On the other hand:**

**(4) Bullet Points**

- **The state of Connecticut** last year reached a \$4.5 million settlement with Energy Plus – a retail energy marketer – following allegations that the company promised to save customers money and then charged them as much as double the market rate.

Other states have reported similar problems with tactics used by third-party electricity suppliers:

- **In January of this year, retail energy marketer Just Energy** agreed to pay \$4 million in Massachusetts to settle allegations it switched customers to its service without their consent and charged more than promised rates.
- **In 2014, the New Jersey attorney general** sued three companies, alleging that they defrauded hundreds of consumers by misrepresenting the savings they'd be getting. In January, one of the companies, HIKO Energy – also a retail energy marketer -- agreed to pay a \$2.1 million fine.
- **The Pennsylvania attorney general** last year filed complaints against five out-state electricity suppliers, seeking to have their licenses suspended or revoked. The attorney general reported receiving more than 7,500 complaints about spikes in the cost of electricity over a four-month period.

Michigan's economy is on the upswing thanks, in part, to our supply of affordable, reliable electricity. But we need to maintain that momentum, and steer clear of methods that look good on paper but fail to deliver on their promises.

I am not an attorney/accountant/legislator/ nor an energy expert

I am here because Roncelli, Inc. is a builder that represents approximately 600 families that enjoy employment in Roncelli's business units of Health Care/Industrial/Commercial/Institutional and Entertainment Industries

600 families within Roncelli and perhaps 10 x that amount with subcontractors that we employ.

The "Working Family" Grass Root concern is simple:

"Jobs"

"Keep our Work in Michigan"

"Control our own Destiny"

"Let us see a Hopeful Future"

Maintain & support our current electrical contractor "DTE" who provides contractors like Roncelli with unparalleled support at all levels; planning/scheduling/product/safety, along with sense of community.

Let's focus our legislative priorities on moving Michigan forward. Chairman Nesbitt's legislation is a step in the right direction for all Michiganders, and a Michigan-first policy that the businesses across our state should support.

Thank you for your time.