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For immediate release
May 21st, 2024
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PRESS RELEASE

First Energy/JCP&L Must Increase “Internal” Funding to Modernize Grid.

Franklin, New Jersey – Harvey Roseff, a Byram Councilman and candidate for Sussex County Commissioner along with Robert Kovic, is demanding that First Energy/JCP&L utilize increased internal funding to upgrade its equipment used to provide power to the public.

“For years now, First Energy has manhandled New Jersey’s BPU to authorize extra ratepayer charges to pay for decades of its subsidiary’s, JCP&L, neglected and outdated distribution grid,” said Roseff. “This has led to unreliable power delivery to Sussex County while the ratepayers keep paying more so that First Energy’s shareholders get more profits.” JCP&L serves 1.1 million customers in central and northern New Jersey including all or most of Sussex County.

“The distribution grid lacks modern automation and command and control methods that minimize outages and speed recovery”, said Kovic. “This must end now, and Sussex County homeowners should not bear the full costs so that shareholders receive maximum profits”.

“Updating JCP&L’s grid would bring badly needed command, control and communication capability for JCP&L management to end repair crew confusion, bring added grid safety, and improve JCP&L’s response to power delivery problems” said Roseff.

“After years of neglecting its equipment, First Energy needs to increase its capital expenditure to assist JCP&L in delivering Sussex County a reliable power supply on par with other counties,” said Kovic. “These neglected upgrades have allowed for robust dividends to First Energy Shareholders at the cost of a less reliable power supply system to Sussex County.”

“The lack of attention from the Sussex County Commissioners to this monopoly’s years-long neglect of its infrastructure in exchange for short-term profit needs to end now. Sussex County deserves the same quality distribution grid that most utilities, including PSE&G, provide to its customers” insisted Roseff. “The Sussex County Commissioners must prioritize this critical County service immediately”.