

## For Immediate Release

## APEG President, Mike Jacoby Lauds Ohio Governor Mike DeWine's Election to Co-Chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission

Nelsonville, Ohio, January 10, 2020—The 25 counties that comprise the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG), one of six JobsOhio network partners throughout the state of Ohio, will benefit and gain additional exposure with the recent election of Ohio Governor Mike DeWine to co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). Economic Development in Appalachian Ohio is a focus of Governor DeWine's administration. DeWine was elected by the Governors of 13 states that are located within Appalachia including Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

Mike Jacoby, President and CEO of APEG, believes Governor DeWine's appointment to co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission is a positive for southern, eastern and southeastern Ohio economic development efforts. "I commend Governor DeWine for his interest in and commitment to the Appalachian region and congratulate him on being elected for this important role," said Jacoby. "To have the top leader of our great state devote so much of his scarce time to our region, I think speaks to his strong character and true desire to help lift up all Ohioans." Mike Jacoby leads the APEG-JobsOhio team's project development and business attraction efforts as well as shale energy activities and initiatives related to the state's Utica shale resources. The APEG-JobsOhio team works with site selectors, counties and communities to help existing companies expand and attract new companies.

Investments made through the ARC are made in partnership with each of the Region's 13 governors. ARC invested nearly \$177 million into the Region in 2019. Jacoby added, "The leadership team and professional staff at APEG are totally committed and dedicated to attracting new industry and good paying jobs to the region. We have a surplus of skilled workers, 31 post-secondary education and training facilities, the lowest business taxes in the Midwest, and our location provides access to over 60% of the nation's population." Southeastern Ohio hosts 33 Fortune 500 companies.

**About APEG:** Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG) is the JobsOhio Network Partner for southern, eastern and southeastern Ohio, providing economic development work and resources in 25 rural counties; they are the newest and geographically the largest of the six regions across the state. APEG partners closely with regional development districts, local economic development offices, state agencies and other entities to expand, retain and attract businesses in the counties they serve. Learn more at <u>APEG.com</u>.

**Contact:** Heather Church, Director of Marketing & Communication: <a href="https://hchurch@apeg.com">hchurch@apeg.com</a>, 740.243.0603