155 East Broad Street
20th Floor
Columbus, Ohio, 43215

o: 614-222-1330
f: 614-222-1337

November 21, 2017

Barcy McNeal, Secretary
Ohio Power Siting Board
PUCO, Docketing Division
180 East Broad St., 11th Fl.
Columbus, OH. 43215

Re: OPSB Case No. 17-2057-EL-BLN; In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the 3885-138kV East Provident Loop Project

Dear Ms. McNeal:

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke Energy Ohio), filed a Letter of Notification, pursuant to O.A.C. Chapter 4906-6, on October 27, 2017, concerning a proposed project known as the East Provident Loop Project. The Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) Staff issued its report on November 20, 2017, recommending automatic approval of the project on November 27, 2017, provided that three conditions were satisfied:

1. Prior to the commencement of construction activities in areas that require permits or authorizations by federal or state laws and regulations, the Applicant shall obtain and comply with such permits or authorizations. The Applicant shall provide copies of permits and authorizations, including all supporting documentation, to Staff within seven days of issuance or receipt by the Applicant.

2. The Applicant shall avoid impacts to Upland sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) habitat during the species' nesting periods of April 15 through July 31, unless coordination efforts with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) allow for a different course of action.

3. The Applicant shall adhere to seasonal cutting dates of October 1 through March 31 for removal of any trees greater than three inches in diameter, unless coordination with the ODNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allows a different course of action.

Duke Energy Ohio adopts and accepts all three required conditions and agrees to satisfy them.

Sincerely,

Jeanne W. Kingery
Jeanne W. Kingery
Associate General Counsel