

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Edison)	
Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating)	
Company and The Toledo Edison Company for)	Case No. 08-0935-EL-SSO
Authority To Establish A Standard Service Offer)	
Pursuant to R.C. §4928.143 In the Form Of An)	
Electric Security Plan	ŕ	

OHIO SCHOOLS COUNCIL MOTION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

The Ohio Schools Council (hereinafter "Schools") respectfully moves the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to grant the Schools' Motion to Intervene in this proceeding (Ohio Revised Code § 4903.221; Ohio Administrative Code § 4901-1-11). The Schools further explain the basis for their intervention in the attached Memorandum in Support.

Respectfully submitted,

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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF OHIO SCHOOLS COUNCIL'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

The Ohio Schools Council ("Schools") is a regional council of governments established under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code, and is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio. It has established natural gas and electricity programs comprised currently of members and other participating public school districts for the purpose of purchasing natural gas and electricity, issuing bonds to prepay for energy purchases by the participating school districts, and obtaining electricity savings. Through the Schools' efforts, the Schools have realized significant energy cost savings, thus conserving increasingly scarce public funds available for education in the State of Ohio.

The Schools have operated electricity purchase programs since 1998 for public school districts. The Schools currently operate an electricity purchase program (called Energy for Education II) which includes 238 public school districts and 11 MR/DD Boards in all three of the First Energy Operating Companies' Ohio service territories. This program includes all but four

Ohio public school districts served by the First Energy Operating Companies, and is in effect until December 31, 2008.

The Schools have a substantial interest in this case. They are significant consumers of electricity distribution and generation from The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company ("CEI"), Toledo Edison Company ("TE") and Ohio Edison Company ("OE") (CEI, TE and OE collectively called "the Operating Companies"). Schools currently participating in the Ohio Schools Council's electricity program consume in excess of \$80 million of electricity (total bill) per year.

The Schools recognized that Amended Substitute Senate Bill 221 would have a direct and substantial impact on the retail price paid for electric service by the Schools members, and actively participated in its development before the General Assembly. As provided for in S.B. 221, First Energy has proposed an Electric Security Plan ("ESP") in this case, and the Schools again seek to participate to ensure that their interests are fully represented. The Commission's decision in this case settting the retail rates to be paid by the Schools will have a direct and substantial impact on these customers and their ability to provide quality education to children in Ohio, necessitating the Schools' intervention.

In addition, the Schools have a direct and substantial interest in the resolution of Case No. 07-551-EL-AIR, et al. The Schools filed for intervention in Case No. 07-551 on August 22, 2007, based on the proposed elimination by CEI and TE of the two existing school tariffs as well as the Companies' proposed \$340 million distribution rate increase. The Schools intervention was granted on December 21, 2007. The Schools actively participated throughout that case, and awaited the Commission's decision regarding whether these schedules would be eliminated and what additional rate increases the Schools would be subjected to. The Commission has not yet

rendered a decision in Case No. 07-551, and First Energy has proposed that its resolution be incorporated into this case. In addition to the other issues before the Commission in First Energy's proposed ESP case, the resolution of Case No. 07-551 alone will have a direct and substantial impact on the tariffs available to the Schools and the distribution rates they will be required to pay. The Schools are under extraordinary and well-publicized funding pressures in the State. New electric rate increases, for both distribution and generation, will have a severe adverse affect on the 249 Ohio public school districts that participate in the Ohio Schools Council's electricity purchase program.

Ohio Revised Code Section 4903.221 (A) provides for intervention to persons "who may be adversely affected..." by a Commission proceeding and timely file a motion to intervene. Ohio Revised Code Section 4903.221 (B) establishes criteria for the Commission to consider in ruling on motions to intervene:

- (1) the nature and extent of the movant's interest;
- (2) the movant's legal position and its probably relation to the merits;
- (3) whether the movant will unduly prolong or delay the case; and
- (4) whether the movant will significantly contribute to resolution of the factual issues.

Ohio Administrative Code Rule 4901-1-11 (B) provides for intervention upon a showing that the movant has a real and substantial interest. The Rule's criteria for this showing essentially are those in the above-referenced statutes except that the:

Criterion of Section 4903.221(B) (2) does not appear in Rule 4901-1-11(B). The Rule instead includes a criterion regarding the extent to which the movant's interest is represented by existing parties.

Rule 4901-1-11(B) (2), Ohio Administrative Code.

Clearly, the Schools satisfy these standards. The Schools may be "adversely affected" by this proceeding. The instant motion to intervene is timely. The Schools have a real and substantial interest in this proceeding which will not be adequately protected by other parties. No existing parties represent the Schools' interest as commercial electric customers of the Operating Companies with similar load and usage characteristics. The Schools will contribute to the just and expeditious resolution of these issues. As noted above, the Ohio Schools Council was granted intervention in CEI's last electric rate case, Case No. 07-551-EL-AIR, et al., and participated actively and meaningfully. Finally, granting the Schools' intervention would not unduly delay the case or unjustly prejudice any party as this rate case is at an early stage.

For these reasons, the Schools' motion should be granted as soon as possible and the Schools made a full party of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this pleading is being served by fax, first class mail or personal delivery, as shown below, this 4th day of September 2008.

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