## 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 Authority to Establish a Standard Service Offer Pursuant to R.C. 4928.143 in the Form of an Electric Security Plan.

Case No. 08-935-EL-SSO

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PREFILED TESTIMONY
OF
PETER K. BAKER

SERVICE MONITORING & ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT RELIABILITY & SERVICE ANALYSIS DIVISION PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Staff Exhibit \_\_\_\_\_

October 6, 2008

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Technician Date Processed 0 42006

- 1 l. Q. Please state your name and business address.
- A. My name is Peter Baker. My address is 180 E. Broad Street, Columbus,
- 3 Ohio 43215-3793.

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- 5 2. Q. By who are you employed?
- 6 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

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- Q. What is your present position with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
   and what are your duties?
- A. I am a section chief in the Reliability and Service Analysis Division of the
  Service Monitoring and Enforcement Department. My section analyzes
  reliability and service quality performance, and enforces reliability, service
  quality, and consumer protection rules for electric, gas, and water utilities.
  This includes analyzing and assessing the electric reliability and main
  - tenance performance of electric distribution utilities. My section also reviews the general terms and conditions in the tariffs of electric, gas, and water utilities to ensure compliance with consumer protection rules.

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- 4. Q. Would you briefly state your educational background and work history?
- A. I have bachelor's degrees in Psychology (1967) and Philosophy (1971)

  from the University of Oklahoma, and a 1987 bachelor's degree in Business
- Administration (with major in Accounting) from Franklin University.

1			From 1972 to 1986, I was employed by Dowell Division of Dow Chemical
2			Company (an oil field service operation later called Dowell Schlumberger)
3			where I functioned as clerk/dispatcher and administrative assistant. In
4			1987, I joined the PUCO, where I worked as an analyst and coordinator in
5			the Performance Analysis Division of the Utilities Department. In
6			December of 1994, I was promoted to Administrator in the Consumer Ser-
7			vices Department (now called the Service Monitoring and Enforcement
8			Department), and assigned to the Compliance Division (now the Facilities
9			and Operations Field Division). In that organization, I enforced electric,
10			gas, and telephone service quality, customer service, and consumer protec-
<b>1</b> 1			tion rules. In 1997, I was transferred to the Service Quality and Analysis
12			Division (now called the Reliability and Service Analysis Division), and in
13			2000, I was promoted to my current position and duties.
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15	5.	Q.	What is the purpose of your testimony is this case?
10		٨	My testimony concerns one of the terms in the Electric Service Paraleties

16 My testimony concerns one of the terms in the Electric Service Regulations contained in the FirstEnergy Companies' (Companies') proposed tariffs in 17 18 this case. More specifically, my testimony raises an issue with one of the 19 Parallel Operation requirements in Paragraph D of Section VIII.

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Q. What is Staff's concern with the Companies' Parallel Operation requirements?

1		Α.	The proposed language would require that if a customer wanted to establish
2			parallel interconnection to the customer's generating facilities, the Com-
3			pany could (at its option) require the customer to establish and pay for a
4			dedicated telephone line to the Company's load dispatcher.
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6	7.	Q.	Why is Staff opposed to such a requirement?
7		A.	Staff believes that to the extent it applies to net metered customers, this
8			requirement is contrary to the intent of Rule 4901:1-10-28 (B) of the Ohio
9			Administrative Code (O.A.C.), which prohibits an electric distribution util-
10			ity from including in a tariff for net metering any requirements beyond
11			those established by the National Electrical Code, the Institute of Electrical
12			and Electronics Engineers, and certain interconnection rules in Chapter
13			4901:1-22, O.A.C.
14			
15	8.	Q.	Do any of those sources contain a requirement for a net metered customer
16			to establish a dedicated telephone line with the electric distribution utility's
17			load dispatcher?
18		A.	No, to my knowledge, they do not.
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20	9.	Q.	Does the Company's Net Energy Metering Rider contain such a require-
21			ment?

Ţ	Α.	No, but in the past, the Companies attempted to include such a requirement
2		in their Net Energy Metering Rider, and Staff instructed them to remove it.
3		Although the Companies did remove the provision from their Net Energy
4		Metering Rider, that provision remains in the current Parallel Operation
5		paragraph in the Use of Service section of the Companies' Electric Service
6		Regulations.

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- Q. Does Staff have other concerns with the requirement for a dedicated telephone line?
- 10 A. Yes, aside from being contrary to the above-cited rule, Staff is concerned
  11 that this requirement may create a barrier against customers who want to
  12 establish a net metering arrangement with the Companies. Having to pay
  13 installation charges and monthly service charges for a dedicated telephone
  14 line represents additional costs which may convince smaller customers to
  15 forgo establishing a net-metering arrangement.

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- 17 11. Q. What does Staff recommend to correct this situation?
- A. Staff recommends that the Companies add the following sentence at the end
  of the Parallel Operation paragraph: "The requirement for a dedicated telephone line does not apply to service for net metering."

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1	12.	Q.	Did Staff address this issue in Case Number 07-551-EL-AIR (Rate Case)
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A. Yes, Staff adopted a similar position on this issue in testimony that I filed in that case.

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- 5 13. Q. Do you have any other recommendations at this time?
- A. Yes. There were a number of distribution reliability, net metering, and interconnection issues that were the subject of Staff testimony and recommendations in FE's distribution rate case No. 07-551 that remains pending before the Commission. The Staff believes its recommendations are supported by the record in that case and Staff again requests that the Commission adopt these recommendations as part of its 07-551 decision.

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- 13 14. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 14 A. Yes it does, although I reserve the right to supplement my testimony as new information becomes available.

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## PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Prefiled Testimony of Peter K. Baker, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, was served by regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, hand-delivered, and/or delivered via electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2008.

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