

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF OHIO

- - -

Case No. 08-935-EL-SSO

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 Section 4928.143, Revised)
Code, in the Form of an Electric)
Security Plan.)

- - -

BE IT REMEMBERED that upon the hearing
of the above-entitled matter held before
Commissioner Cheryl Roberto at the Cleveland
City Hall Council Chambers, 601 Lakeside
Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, and commencing on
Thursday, the 25th day of September, 2008, at
12:00 o'clock p.m., the following proceedings
were had.

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PUCO

1 MR. PRICE: Good afternoon.
2 Welcome to the hearing of the Public Utility
3 Commission. We're set for hearing at this
4 time in Case Number 08-935-EL-SSO in the
5 Matter of the Application of Ohio Edison
6 Company, the Cleveland Illuminating Company
7 and the Toledo Edison Company for Authority to
8 Establish a Service Offer Pursuant to Section
9 4928.143, Revised Code, in the Form of an
10 Electric Security Plan.

11 My name is Gregory Price, the
12 attorney examiner assigned to this case. With
13 me is Commissioner Cheryl Roberto. Let's
14 begin by taking appearances of the parties,
15 starting with the company.

16 MR. KORKOSZ: If Your Honor
17 please, on behalf of the applicant, Arthur
18 Korkosz, FirstEnergy Service Company, 76 South
19 Main Street, Akron, Ohio.

20 MR. PRICE: Thank you, counsel.

21 MR. POULOS: Your Honor, Gregory
22 J. Poulos. I represent the Ohio Consumers'
23 Counsel and the residential consumers in this
24 case. Thank you.

25 MR. BEELER: City of Cleveland,

1 Steve Beeler, 601 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland,
2 Ohio 44114.

3 MR. WARNER: I'm Greg Warner on
4 behalf of the city.

5 MR. PORTER: Andre Porter. I work
6 at Schottenstein, Zox & Dunn on behalf of the
7 city, City of Cleveland.

8 MR. PRICE: Are there any other
9 interveners today for the proceedings?

10 MR. MEISTER: Yes, sir. Good
11 afternoon, Your Honor. My name is Joseph
12 Meister. I'm an attorney with Cleveland Legal
13 Aid Society.

14 We're here today on behalf of the
15 Citizens Coalition which comprises the
16 following groups: Empowerment Center of
17 Greater Cleveland, Consumers for Fair Utility
18 Rates and Neighborhood Environmental Coalition
19 and the Cleveland Housing Network.

20 We have previously, Your Honor,
21 protested against these hearings and the lack
22 of notice of these hearings. Thank you very
23 much.

24 MR. PRICE: Thank you. All
25 testimony at today's hearing will be under

1 oath. After I issue the oath, I'll ask you to
2 state your name and give us your address for
3 the record. Let's go ahead with the first
4 witness Valerie McCall.

5 VALERIE McCALL
6 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
7 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
8 testified and said as follows:

9 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
10 and address.

11 MS. McCALL: Sure. It's Valerie
12 J. McCall, Chief of Governmental Affairs, City
13 of Cleveland, 601 Lakeside Avenue, Office of
14 the Mayor, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

15 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

16 MS. McCALL: Thank you. On behalf
17 of Mayor Frank G. Jackson, Cleveland City
18 Council, I would just like to say for thank
19 you for hearing this hearing here at Cleveland
20 City Hall, but also so that our residents of
21 the City of Cleveland could get here in an
22 accessible manner to share their concerns.

23 My name is Valerie J. McCall and I
24 am the Chief of Governmental Affairs for Mayor
25 Frank Jackson, City of Cleveland and I am here

1 today as a representative of the Mayor and
2 Cleveland City Council not only to listen to
3 the comments and concerns expressed by
4 Cleveland's citizens in response to
5 FirstEnergy's request to modify its rate
6 structure and apply for a Standard Service
7 Offering in the State of Ohio, but also to
8 assure the citizens of Cleveland that the city
9 and the administration are keenly aware of the
10 consequences and far reaching ramifications of
11 the request by FirstEnergy and the effect of
12 those requested changes will have on all of
13 us.

14 As part of the effort to make sure
15 that the City of Cleveland and its citizens
16 are properly represented and that our voice is
17 heard in Columbus, the City has filed a motion
18 to intervene in the PUCO's review of
19 FirstEnergy's Electric Security Plan
20 application that is the subject of today's
21 public hearing.

22 Additionally, the City of
23 Cleveland is already an intervenor in the
24 related market rate offer application also
25 filed by FirstEnergy and pending before PUCO.

1 The city staff, the law
2 department, special legal counsel and our
3 technical experts are all working diligently
4 to make sure that Cleveland has an appropriate
5 place at the table during the PUCO
6 proceedings.

7 As proposed, FirstEnergy's ESP and
8 MRO applications have the potential to
9 drastically impact pricing, as well as the
10 terms and conditions under which the City of
11 Cleveland, its residents and businesses
12 receive retail electric service.

13 We wanted to make sure that the
14 great citizenry of the City of Cleveland knows
15 that the City of Cleveland currently is, and
16 will absolutely continue to, participate fully
17 as a party in the review and approval process
18 being deducted by the PUCO of Ohio in response
19 to this application.

20 During the ESP and MRO
21 proceedings, the city will work to seek the
22 best possible retail electric rates and terms
23 and conditions of service for its residents
24 and businesses.

25 The PUCO, however, should

1 administer the law in a way that will move
2 Ohio to the forefront of states promoting
3 renewable energy sources. This is a big
4 concern for us here in Cleveland. Among the
5 city's concerns is that the alternative energy
6 portfolio standards be meaningful.

7 While we understand that the PUCO
8 may allow a waiver of the standards for "good
9 cause" it is imperative that the good cause be
10 carefully defined. Ohio in general and
11 northeast Ohio in particular have many
12 competitive advantages in the race to build
13 new economies based on the production of
14 renewable energy. We need a regulatory
15 environment that supports these advantages.

16 The mayor has already gone on
17 record with Governor Strickland and Lieutenant
18 Governor Lee Fisher about our concerns in this
19 manner. We desire to communicate to the PUCO
20 and our citizens that the city remains
21 steadfast in its commitment to making sure
22 city staff and our expert legal counsel
23 continue to participate fully in these
24 proceedings, until the best possible result is
25 realized for Cleveland's residents, businesses

1 and the city.

2 We have already had conversations
3 with FirstEnergy and have shared this as well.
4 Many will continue to have conversations with
5 them as well. Thank you for your time and
6 your consideration of the citizens of the City
7 of Cleveland.

8 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
9 witness is Robert Morton.

10 ROBERT MORTON
11 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
12 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
13 testified and said as follows:

14 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
15 and address for the record.

16 MR. MORTON: Robert Morton,
17 Strongsville City Schools, 13200 Pearl Road,
18 Strongsville, Ohio.

19 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

20 MR. MORTON: My name is Robert
21 Morton. I am the Director of Business
22 Services and Technology for Strongsville City
23 Schools and I'm here today to talk about the
24 proposed rate increases for generation and
25 distribution of electrical power to

1 Strongsville City Schools.

2 Over the last ten years
3 Strongsville City Schools, along with 248
4 other school districts throughout Ohio, and
5 through the Ohio Schools Council have enjoyed
6 a partnership with FirstEnergy that has been
7 beneficial to all parties.

8 The districts have realized a 13.4
9 percent lower cost for electrical energy and
10 FirstEnergy has had the use of significant
11 dollars realized from a prepayment program.
12 The current program is ending December 31,
13 2008. It is our desire to enter into a new
14 partnership to continue with those amounts of
15 savings.

16 With the end of the Energy for
17 Education II program and the present value of
18 prepayment program Strongsville City Schools
19 annual electrical cost will increase by
20 \$134,000; that alone represents two and a half
21 teachers. If you increase the generation and
22 distribution rate, it will further reduce the
23 amount of money needed for teaching staff.

24 The district recognizes the cost
25 of doing business is increasing; it is for

1 everyone. We do not know what the total
2 percentage increase will be, but at minimum it
3 will be 13.4 percent.

4 And I might add since I've written
5 this we have received information that the
6 first year's increase request is 5.32 percent,
7 which will now at that rate increase our
8 budget for electrical energy by -- and the
9 loss of savings that we currently have to
10 \$190,000, which is about three teachers.

11 We strongly encourage the
12 continued partnership that exists with the
13 Energy for Education I and II programs so the
14 districts can continue to provide the
15 excellent educational opportunities for the
16 individuals that will be making these types of
17 decisions in the future.

18 Thank you for allowing me to speak
19 today. I appreciate the opportunity.

20 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
21 Philip Dickinson.

22 PHILIP DICKINSON
23 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
24 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
25 testified and said as follows:

1 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
2 and address for the record.

3 MR. DICKINSON: My name is Philip
4 Dickinson. I'm the Director of Operations and
5 Business Services for Orange City Schools.
6 We're located at 32000 Chagrin Boulevard,
7 Pepper Pike, Ohio. Thank you for letting us
8 present today.

9 Orange City Schools is a public
10 district. It represents the cities of Hunting
11 Valley, Moreland Hills, Orange, Pepper Pike
12 and Woodmere. We're a public school district.
13 We are one of the 249 members of the Ohio
14 Schools Council that participate in the Energy
15 for Education Program.

16 As Bob said, you know, this
17 program gives us a 13.4 percent discount on
18 our electricity for just the school buildings.
19 The program was designed so we prepay CEI and
20 they will take that money and they would
21 service their equipment and build new things.
22 They have the money in advance and, of course,
23 we will get the discount on the public school
24 buildings.

25 I'm not sure if that took place

1 because CEI has lost power to Orange and our
2 campus many times over the past few years.
3 They have also given us significant power
4 surges which has caused equipment damage and
5 we have had to buy suppressors and equipment
6 to try to protect the school from the
7 fluctuation of power.

8 We had a power outage on Sunday,
9 December 2nd, 2007. It took 11 hours for the
10 repair and we had to close school and we lost
11 a day of education. Our last power -- most
12 recent one on Sunday, September 14th took CEI
13 12 hours to restore power.

14 And I have been in the school
15 business for 30 years, a little over 30 years
16 now and power outages and surges and slow
17 response were not part of my past experience
18 with the electric company. They always
19 responded and treated us as a high priority,
20 not as high as hospitals but, you know, they
21 thought that the public schools were somebody
22 that they needed to get on and get back on
23 quickly.

24 The rate increase follows an
25 announcement from CEI that was in the Plain

1 Dealer that the 2007 year was record profits
2 for FirstEnergy, \$1.31 billion, the highest
3 profit in the 10-year history of the utility.
4 So, you know, coupled with -- and I've got the
5 Plain Dealer article attached to that.

6 So we have a possible loss of our
7 Energy for Education program which will effect
8 Orange about \$100,000. Our yearly budget is
9 about \$800,000 for electricity, so just the
10 discount program would increase our cost
11 \$100,000. And then as I looked over the rate
12 increases over the few years, they about equal
13 the loss of the energy program, so that would
14 be another hundred thousand. So it would be
15 200,000 total budget increase and that would
16 be a huge increase for any school district.

17 So kind of in review, you know,
18 we've had a decrease in customer service,
19 FirstEnergy reports record profits, with
20 possible loss of our energy program for
21 education, possible rate increase, huge cost
22 increases for electricity, the economic times
23 are tough for everyone. It's very hard to
24 pass school levies and this, you know, so this
25 kind of increase could cost decrease in

1 educational programs.

2 So I'm requesting that the Public
3 Utilities Commission and FirstEnergy treat the
4 public schools as a separate and distinct
5 group, that they renew our special rate and
6 that they respond and give us high priority on
7 our service calls. Thank you.

8 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
9 Ronald Miller.

10 RONALD MILLER
11 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
12 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
13 testified and said as follows:

14 MR. MILLER: My name is Ronald
15 Miller. My address is 749 Bedford Avenue,
16 Elyria, Ohio.

17 I'm here representing residents
18 and consumers of FirstEnergy and many of them
19 may not even realize that they need
20 representation at this point in time, but I
21 have researched the effects of the proposed
22 rate increases by Ohio Edison on my particular
23 home and I would like to share with you some
24 of the information that I have found.

25 First of all, I contacted Ohio

1 Edison and asked them if their rate increases
2 were approved as proposed what impact it would
3 have on my bill, specifically beginning in
4 January of 2009. And I received the following
5 information back from them.

6 They took a 12 month history and
7 they told me what I currently was paying for
8 electricity and what I would pay under the
9 proposed rate increase. In the past 12 months
10 I paid \$1500 for electricity. Under the new
11 plan, which would take effect in 2009, the
12 same consumption would cost me over \$2500,
13 which is an increase in my personal electric
14 bill of over a thousand dollars a year on a
15 current \$1500 bill.

16 Now, do the math. Proportionately
17 I keep reading here about how their rates are
18 going to be four percent, five percent, 5.99
19 percent for the average person's home. Okay.
20 Well, obviously I do not fit into that average
21 category because my rate increase would be
22 somewhere in the neighborhood of 66 to 68
23 percent.

24 And when I inquired further about
25 it, they said that it would even be greater

1 than that because the rates that they quoted
2 or that they used when they quoted me the
3 proposed increases for 2009 they did not
4 include these proposed rates that was taking
5 the current rates and moving me from the
6 existing rate plan that I'm on to a new plan
7 which was part of House Bill 221.

8 Okay. So it deeply disturbs me
9 that I keep reading how the average person is
10 going to have four percent, five percent
11 increases for those three years, but I look at
12 my bill and it's going to be 70-plus percent
13 increase in the very first year and then I'm
14 still going to take these additional increases
15 in the preceding years.

16 Now I get a special rate because I
17 live in an all electric home. Okay. And
18 those special rates are going to be
19 eliminated, it's my understanding, based upon
20 the information and feedback that I received
21 from Ohio Edison that they plan to eliminate
22 that.

23 Now our governor has said that he,
24 you know, pushed Bill 221 to stimulate growth
25 and development in the State of Ohio. In my

1 opinion it's very unfair to put a burden like
2 that on a specific population, a small group
3 of people disproportionately share of the cost
4 of those increases is going to be assessed on
5 people like myself who live in an all electric
6 home.

7 I would urge you to consider
8 providing some type of protection against that
9 proposed rate increases for owners of those
10 types of homes, including myself. Many of
11 these people are not aware of the effects that
12 these increases are going to have on them
13 because, again, if they go by what they're
14 reading in the newspaper they think maybe
15 they're going to get four or five percent or
16 six percent raises or increases and in reality
17 it's going to be 70-plus percent if you live
18 in a home like I do.

19 So I would urge you to -- I think
20 it's inappropriate to do this. I've contacted
21 the PUCO, I've contacted Governor Strickland's
22 office, I've contacted my state representative
23 Matthew Lundy, I've also contacted the
24 Consumer Protection Agency.

25 I believe that gentleman over

1 there said that he was from that agency. And
2 I spoke with a man named Jim Williams down
3 there. And in every case all the parties that
4 I spoke to when I first started talking to
5 them and presenting information about what I
6 had learned from Ohio Edison and, again, I'm
7 giving you information that came direct from
8 Ohio Edison, they sort of all blew it off.

9 And then when I actually gave them
10 dollars and cent representation of the
11 increases and the percentages, every one of
12 them was shocked. No one really believed that
13 those kinds of increases would impact on
14 people.

15 And so I would ask you to please
16 protect us and do not allow these increases to
17 occur. I thank you for your time.

18 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Now our
19 next witness is Sheila Pennington.

20 SHEILA PENNINGTON
21 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
22 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
23 testified and said as follows:

24 MR. PRICE: Please state your
25 name.

1 MS. PENNINGTON: Miss Sheila
2 Pennington. And a good afternoon. Thank you
3 for my electric bill. Okay.

4 I see that you had an ad in the
5 paper and I'm here to ask that the PUCO do the
6 people, senior citizens that happen to live in
7 the ghetto do nothing for FirstEnergy.

8 Let them survive like we survived,
9 on what they have done and what they're doing
10 now, which is nothing. From the CEOs to CFOs
11 you look good in your black suits and white
12 shirts but that does not help us pay the light
13 bill.

14 I have in my hand my light bill
15 \$1,435. They want that on the 29th of
16 September. I have in this hand my award
17 letter Social Security. It wouldn't cover
18 this bill if I borrowed \$500.

19 Now, to this beautiful piece of
20 paper here to be phased in over five years.
21 What and how much would that help us? It's
22 going to increase us. They want us to pitch a
23 tent with a candle and they pass by in their
24 black suits and white shirts, how do you do.
25 How do you do?

1 I have another little piece of
2 paper here that you all let me read today.
3 Allows for the recovery of costs. If you lose
4 part of your health, you cannot recover that.
5 It's over, it's gone, it's shot.

6 You call these people. They have
7 beautiful girls I guess. I've never seen any
8 of them, but they have the nastiest attitudes
9 when you're trying to explain and ask what can
10 I do with a \$1,000 light bill? Pay your bill.
11 I almost said to her I'm going to let you know
12 in a minute that I am from the ghetto because
13 I can talk to you like you talk to me. I
14 don't bother to call them.

15 When they call me, I call them
16 back. I get a recording punch this, punch
17 that. That's not what I want. I want a
18 voice. I want someone who can deal with the
19 public. Remember if you got a mother how
20 would you want somebody to talk to her. The
21 same you give, the same you get.

22 But if the PUCO allows these
23 lobbyists to pull FirstEnergy's coattail with
24 a golf outing to raise our rents, it's a sin
25 and I thank you for listening to me.

1 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
2 witness is Ken Clickenger.

3 KEN CLICKENGER
4 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
5 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
6 testified and said as follows:

7 MR. CLICKENGER: Rather sorry I
8 wore a suit.

9 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
10 and address for the record.

11 MR. CLICKENGER: Ken Clickenger.
12 I'm the Business Manager of Euclid City
13 Schools, 651 East 222nd Street, Euclid, Ohio.

14 Some months ago we came here
15 offering testimony with regard to the proposed
16 distribution rate increase and were told that
17 our fears about a generation rate increase
18 shouldn't be expressed at that setting. Now
19 we're here again with a generation rate
20 increase that will be stacked on top of the
21 distribution rate increase and then stacked on
22 top of a 13.4 rate increase your public
23 schools will feel because of the loss of the
24 Energy for Education program evidently being
25 dropped by FirstEnergy.

1 Now, in Euclid we're bracing for a
2 \$280,000 per year increase which will slash
3 into our budget causing us to layoff
4 employees, employees who service our very
5 needy school children. This increase alone
6 could mean the reduction of more than 11
7 security guards.

8 Now, we are already downsizing.
9 We're already reducing services to children.
10 We're already faced with revenue losses from
11 the State of Ohio and inflation because of
12 diesel fuel costs for our school buses and
13 unfunded mandates that will surely drag us
14 down. We have done what we can to conserve
15 energy, in the last 18 months have invested
16 \$1.5 million in energy saving equipment and
17 controls.

18 Please consider that the only
19 place that the public has to say no is in the
20 voting booth for schools and school issues.
21 There will be hundreds of school districts on
22 the ballot in November trying to stay afloat.
23 These rate increases need to come to us more
24 gradually through a revamped Energy for
25 Education program that treat schools

1 differently and fairly. Thank you.

2 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Tom
3 Mendelsohn.

4 THOMAS MENDELSON
5 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
6 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
7 testified and said as follows:

8 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
9 and address for the record.

10 MR. MENDELSON: My name is Tom
11 Mendelsohn. I'm Executive Director of the
12 Empowerment Center of Greater Cleveland,
13 formerly the Welfare Rights Organization.

14 We work with low income
15 individuals and families trying to assist them
16 with basic needs as they arise. Every day
17 somebody comes to our door or calls us up on
18 the phone and says something happened in my
19 family and I need some help. I don't have
20 enough money for food. I got my utilities
21 disconnected. It could be anything like that.

22 An example of how increasing rates
23 might impinge upon daily living of one of
24 these families, and I'm speaking for someone
25 who couldn't be here today. She is a kinship

1 care giver, a grandparent like maybe some of
2 us in the room are.

3 I know I'm a grandparent and I
4 know that my day or my week sometimes gets
5 changed because one of my grandkids needs to
6 be picked up, but anyway this grandparent
7 happens to be on a pension. She has an ill
8 spouse. She receives a small stipend through
9 the county to cover her grandchildren.

10 And by the way, it's my
11 understanding that that's less if there is a
12 familial relationship than somebody that might
13 get if they were in foster care. So
14 increasing a rate for a utility for whatever
15 the reason has a domino effect on what a
16 family's basic income might be in terms of
17 where do I put the money? Do I put it to
18 medicine for my grandchildren? Do I put it to
19 the food that I need to have for the family?

20 So I would really caution a
21 utility company like FirstEnergy in terms of
22 their process of raising the rates. I think
23 it's great to figure out ways of spending
24 millions and millions of dollars on efficiency
25 and we all know that we need to do that. We

1 need to conserve energy in many different
2 ways, but how will these millions of dollars
3 actually reach the constituents, the
4 consumers, the people that really need the
5 help for weatherization or for conservation?

6 So many of the homes are so old in
7 the inner rings of the city that it would
8 really help to work with organizations already
9 in existence in the community to try to help
10 bring programs that will help decrease the
11 cost of utilities by improving and upgrading
12 the homes.

13 So I would like to ask what
14 constitutes the right amount of dollars?
15 What's the sufficient amount of notice that a
16 utility company needs to give to the
17 constituents to prepare for an increase
18 because it has that domino effect that I
19 mentioned and how will the funds actually
20 reach the consumers who are in need and that
21 concludes my statement. Thank you for the
22 time to speak.

23 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Next
24 witness is Mike Lenzo.

25 MICHAEL LENZO

1 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
2 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
3 testified and said as follows:

4 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
5 and address for the record.

6 MR. LENZO: Yes. My name is Mike
7 Lenzo, 11136 Ravenna Road in Twinsburg, Ohio.

8 My position is Assistant to the
9 Superintendent with the Twinsburg City
10 Schools.

11 I would like to thank the
12 commission for allowing me the opportunity to
13 explain how an electric rate increase will
14 impact the education of our children.

15 As you know, school funding is a
16 major issue in our state and any increases
17 means the basic cost of operating our district
18 will take away dollars from the budget and
19 other items that we need to pursue.

20 Although our community has been
21 very supportive of our district, this increase
22 will have a direct impact on educating
23 students. Our district is currently
24 struggling to overcome the passage of House
25 Bill 66. This house bill deals with the

1 phase-out of tangible personal property tax
2 and that revenue that we use for schools.

3 The state's restructuring of this
4 funding was an attempt to assist businesses in
5 the state. Unfortunately the change in the
6 tax has impacted our school district in a
7 negative fashion. We, more than most schools
8 in the state, use this type of funding to run
9 our programs.

10 I mention this only because the
11 tangible personal property tax rollback
12 benefits business, but it is devastating to
13 how we fund our schools in our community.
14 Please know that our district has benefited
15 from and is very appreciative of the Energy
16 for Education II program.

17 The proposed changes, however,
18 could increase energy costs and adversely
19 affect our district. Early estimates put the
20 figures at 13.4 percent but could be as high
21 as 30 percent. This is the cost of
22 approximately four teachers. With increasing
23 enrollment that our district is experiencing,
24 we will not be able to hire the new teachers
25 needed to keep up with our growth.

1 We have worked diligently to
2 contain costs but, unfortunately, through the
3 next few years will be seeking operating levy
4 money to replace the losses of this type of
5 revenue.

6 In closing, I would like to thank
7 you very much for the time to listen to my
8 concerns. I would also like to ask that the
9 program be continued. Thank you.

10 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
11 witness is Joseph Orevec.

12 JOSEPH OREVEC
13 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
14 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
15 testified and said as follows:

16 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
17 and address for the record.

18 MR. OREVEC: Joseph Orevec, 4027
19 East 29th Street, Newburgh Heights, Ohio.

20 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

21 MR. OREVEC: Ladies and gentlemen,
22 I come here today because one of the goals at
23 FirstEnergy is saying that they're going to
24 take care of us. Their electric security
25 playing goal is to maintain and improve their

1 power distribution system.

2 I come to you today giving you a
3 little history lesson about FirstEnergy and
4 maintaining their system. On August 14, 2003
5 the United States and Canada was effected by
6 one of the worst power outages in history and
7 it was a direct result of the lack of
8 maintenance of FirstEnergy maintaining their
9 power grid, namely, their easement underneath
10 their power lines.

11 When the power surge because of
12 air conditioning use, the lines sagged and
13 then it arched to foliage and trees and caused
14 a forest fire. This caused turbine trips all
15 across the U.S. and took out 40 million people
16 in the United States without power and 10
17 million in Canada.

18 I come to you today to say that
19 this company should be maintaining their
20 property like any responsible property owner
21 and I tell you that where I live in Newburgh
22 Heights they have laws in place about noxious
23 weeds, weed control, forestry and everything
24 else.

25 As a homeowner I'm responsible to

1 control noxious weeds from invading my
2 neighbor's property, from having things like
3 poison ivy, poison oak and other things from
4 being overgrown, but this company right now
5 behind my property has Japanese bamboo, poison
6 ivy, poison oak just inundating the area and
7 affecting neighbor's properties.

8 And all that is going to happen as
9 a result of them not maintaining their
10 property as they should be doing as of right
11 now, they're going to have another outage due
12 to their negligence and their neglect of
13 taking care of their property.

14 They're saying that they want to
15 increase our rates. Mainly one of the things
16 said improve the distribution system and
17 maintain their property. I'm saying right now
18 that they are not doing their job as to
19 maintaining their property. And in all
20 aspects they're collecting rate money from us
21 now and part of that is to pay for maintaining
22 their power grid and the property underneath
23 the power grid by having it manicured and
24 landscaping companies that they contract with
25 to take care of their property.

1 They are not doing that and why
2 should we give them more money to do something
3 that they refuse to do? I am not responsible
4 as a homeowner to maintain their property.
5 They are getting billions of dollars in tax
6 incentives. They're getting billions of
7 dollars from customers across this region to
8 maintain their property as part of their cost
9 of doing business.

10 And if they were a landlord and
11 they were collecting rent and part of the
12 responsibility was to maintain the property
13 for their tenants, they would be labeled right
14 now slum lords and it's exactly what they are.

15 They do not maintain their
16 properties and, therefore, they're causing
17 irreparable harm to people's property values,
18 lifestyles and causing property problems for
19 children that may come into contact with
20 poison ivy, poison oak and other things that
21 are on their property that they refuse to take
22 care of.

23 They are in violation of Newburgh
24 Heights ordinances about maintaining their
25 property. Every other business: Church, gas

1 station, homeowner in the Village of Newburgh
2 Heights, one square mile, 2300 people, takes
3 care of their property, but this company does
4 not take care of their easement which is
5 probably the largest parcel of land outside of
6 the parks that are in the village. They're
7 the single largest owner of property and they
8 do not take care of their property.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
11 witness is Greg Markus.

12 GREG MARKUS

13 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
14 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
15 testified and said as follows:

16 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
17 and address for the record.

18 MR. MARKUS: Greg Marcus. I'm
19 with Rocky River City Schools, 21600 Center
20 Ridge Road, Rocky River, Ohio 44116.

21 Good afternoon. I'm Greg Markus.
22 I'm the Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
23 of the Rocky River City Schools and I'm here
24 today representing the students, citizens,
25 staff and Board of Education of the Rocky

1 River City School District.

2 I would like to thank the
3 commission for allowing me to explain how an
4 electric rate increase will impact the
5 education of our children.

6 We are very appreciative of the
7 support FirstEnergy has provided to our school
8 district, as well as the other 248 districts
9 in the Energy for Education II program in the
10 past. We have had two Energy for Education
11 programs over the last ten years which have
12 been very helpful in keeping our electric
13 rates down. These savings have been used for
14 increased learning opportunities for all
15 students.

16 The current Energy for Education
17 II program will expire on December 31, 2008,
18 which will cause our electric rates to go up
19 at a minimum of 13.4 percent. Any new
20 distribution rate increase and any generation
21 increase authorized by the PUCO will be on top
22 of that increase.

23 Collectively the loss of the
24 current Energy for Education II program will
25 cost the 249 participating districts over

1 \$11.7 million per year. FirstEnergy's
2 distribution rate increase in this PUCO case
3 and any generation increase will be in
4 addition to that \$11.7 million.

5 The Ohio Schools Council is
6 currently analyzing the amount of rate
7 increase that will result from the generation
8 rate proposed by FirstEnergy. That analysis
9 is not yet complete, but we anticipate that it
10 will be significant.

11 This is an unfunded mandate over,
12 which we have no control. We will have to cut
13 elsewhere in our budget in order to fund this
14 increase. For our district we are estimating
15 that the total increase could be the
16 equivalent of up to three teachers or
17 approximately \$180,000.

18 As you know school funding is a
19 major issue in our state. School levy
20 requests are a constant these days and
21 taxpayers are nearing their breaking point as
22 evidenced by recent elections in which more
23 than half of school levy issues have failed
24 with many experiencing multiple failures.

25 Any increase in the basic costs of

1 operating our district will take away dollars
2 from other budgeted items and our school
3 district, as well as the others in this
4 program, simply cannot afford to absorb this
5 level of increase.

6 Rocky River just passed a 5.9 mill
7 operating levy this past March that we have
8 not even yet started to collect upon. This
9 levy was requested to enable us to keep our
10 current level of educational programming and
11 to recover from significant losses of property
12 tax revenue and huge increases in medical
13 insurance and fuel costs that we have
14 experienced over these last several years.

15 Any increase in electric rates
16 would further strain our finances to the point
17 where we'll have to cut programs. With
18 large-scale facility needs in our district and
19 the fact that we just had a levy approved, we
20 simply cannot ask for additional tax revenues
21 from our citizenry.

22 Overall, the loss of the Energy
23 for Education II program, the loss of the
24 special school rates and the anticipated
25 increase in rates for distribution and

1 generation may increase the 249 districts'
2 electric bills in this program by
3 approximately one-third.

4 Further, the Ohio Schools
5 Council's analysis has concluded that schools'
6 load characteristics are more favorable than
7 other commercial customers. Schools do not
8 peak during the three summer months like other
9 commercial customers because school is not in
10 session largely during those peak months.
11 Therefore, special rates which currently exist
12 for Toledo Edison and CEI customers are
13 justified and should continue and new special
14 school rates should be established for Ohio
15 Edison.

16 This increase hits school
17 districts especially hard with the loss of the
18 discount in the Energy for Education II
19 program. This is not a gradual increase, but
20 rather a huge increase that cannot be absorbed
21 by us without significant cuts to our
22 programs.

23 We are asking that the PUCO at a
24 minimum order FirstEnergy to offer the Ohio
25 Schools Council and its 249 public school

1 districts an Energy for Education III program
2 to achieve gradualism in any rate increases to
3 the schools that may increase from this case.

4 I would like to thank the
5 commission for listening and to all those who
6 have testified or will testify today. We hope
7 that the commission would be sympathetic
8 towards schools and look at us as a distinct
9 group, worthy of school rates, which have been
10 in effect previously. Thank you.

11 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Let's go
12 off the record.

13 (Off record discussion had.)

14 MR. PRICE: Back on the record.
15 Our next witness will be Tim Walters.

16 TIMOTHY WALTERS
17 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
18 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
19 testified and said as follows:

20 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
21 and address for the record.

22 MR. WALTERS: My name is Tim
23 Walters. I'm a community organizer. 4510
24 Broadview here in Cleveland. I would like to
25 address a number of points here very quickly

1 that I feel need to be brought up.

2 One is participation. I think as
3 the woman indicated before, we see a number of
4 people in white shirts and suits. I'm just
5 comforted that I don't have either on at the
6 moment, but the point is if you're really
7 interested in the impact of the public you're
8 not going to hold a meeting in downtown
9 Cleveland at noon on a weekday at a place that
10 you're going to pay anywhere from six to \$8
11 to park. You're not going to hear the people
12 that you want to.

13 I do work as a community
14 organizer. I was out in Garfield Heights when
15 they had the hearing out there and they had a
16 significant number of people. They held it in
17 the evening. They held it in a place that
18 people were familiar with and they gave out
19 advance notice to the community that they were
20 going to come down.

21 If you really want to hear what
22 people have to say, if you really want to have
23 to think, you can't depend on them to come to
24 you. They have other commitments during the
25 day. You have to reach out and do it in the

1 community.

2 Like I told Chairman Schrieber at
3 that meeting, and I know Tom Mendelsohn as
4 well, if you come out to our community and you
5 want to find a place for people to come to
6 speak, we'll find you places. It's not that
7 hard to do.

8 The other thing is I'm a college
9 graduate and one of the things that I have
10 prided myself on was my vocabulary and as I
11 look at this I hear this total security plan.
12 As I look at it for the people that I work
13 with, and I work primarily with low-income
14 people in the community, I can't find anything
15 that relates to their security.

16 I can find something that relates
17 to the security of the CEOs or the energy
18 companies so they continue to drown millions
19 of dollars.

20 I can find things that relate to
21 the security of the PUCO so they can continue
22 to operate and I can find something that
23 relates to security of many of our lawyers
24 because this seems to keep a number of them in
25 work, which I admire very much with that, but

1 what I don't see anybody taking a look at is
2 how is this going to impact?

3 And this goes back to the
4 participation. How is this going to impact
5 our community people and what have we done as
6 we develop these rules to involve them? We
7 talk about we're going to bring in this plan
8 over a five year period. Well, what we
9 haven't done any time is going out in the
10 community and saying what is this going to
11 mean to you?

12 And the part that really concerns
13 me and I'm involved in a number of other
14 things with the Strickland administration
15 where they're taking an active look and
16 they're even asking are we measuring poverty
17 adequately? And they're holding regional
18 meetings or going out to meet with people, but
19 on the other side we're having decisions made
20 that we're going to raise the costs that these
21 people have to pay.

22 And when we talk about five
23 percent, ten percent, one percent to many
24 people in the community with all the other
25 things going on they can't afford it, which

1 brings me to my last point is that if this is
2 going to happen, if this is going to take
3 place, then there has to be safeguards built
4 in that are going to enable the average
5 consumer to retain their electricity.

6 Some of this has to be programs
7 that bring their homes to a level that's going
8 to lower those rates and I believe I saw in
9 there that we're talking about FirstEnergy has
10 offered \$25 million. I'm sad to say I'm not
11 really impressed. I could see a figure much
12 larger than that, at least around a hundred
13 million or higher given their profits and what
14 they take out of it to protect our consumers.

15 I also recommend that there has to
16 be a look at the type of assistance and who we
17 provide assistance to out of the communities
18 and this is already happening in other parts
19 of the Strickland administration but it has to
20 happen here as well.

21 Right now we cut off assistance at
22 150 percent at poverty. This leaves many of
23 our consumers without any recourse, without
24 anywhere to go to find any type of assistance.
25 And we need to include those parts in here or

1 if we do this the only security that we're
2 addressing or addressing ourselves to is
3 people who are already making millions of
4 dollars a year. Thank you.

5 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
6 witness is Bernard Pritchett.

7 BERNARD PRITCHETT
8 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
9 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
10 testified and said as follows:

11 MR. PRITCHETT: I'll be
12 testifying today about lights. My lights
13 based upon electricity. Without electricity
14 my machines don't work. Without my medicine I
15 will die. I have been in a coma too many
16 times. I have grand mal seizures. A lot of
17 my medicine has got to be refrigerated.

18 I had to go to a hospital, stay in
19 the hospital. My lights was off for four
20 days. My medicine ain't no good. Now I got
21 to restock. I throw my food away, you know.
22 Don't make no sense to pay the lights if you
23 can't have light. Light.

24 I'm pretty sure some of you all
25 got people that have to have medicine.

1 Somebody in your family has got to be sick,
2 somebody need medication. I need medication.
3 I'm a diabetic and half of my medicine is
4 liquid. I have to take over 30,000 milligrams
5 a day just to live.

6 Without light I don't have
7 nothing. I call for lights. They tell me to
8 go buy a generator. I'm on a fixed income.
9 I'm poor. I mean, what can I do? Tell me.

10 Light company, they don't -- they
11 never get their lights cut off. The people
12 that own the light company, they ain't worried
13 about nothing but they worry about getting
14 paid, where the next buck comes from.

15 I live in a low-class
16 neighborhood. I have to have light. I have
17 to eat. I have to eat three square meals a
18 day but I lose everything I got. What can I
19 do? Tell me what can I do? I lost. They
20 almost cost me my life. That's what I had to
21 come down here today to tell you about.

22 I'm going to die without lights.
23 Without lights I got nothing. They want to
24 cut off public transportation. I live right
25 on the bus line. Without that bus line I

1 can't make where I got to go. Provide a ride
2 to medical. Come to other personal matters I
3 have to take care of myself. So what am I
4 supposed to do? What should I do? I'm lost.

5 In this bag I carry nothing but my
6 life. This is my whole medical records. My
7 doctor came to my house when the lights was
8 out and gave me a phone. He would have bought
9 me a phone so I could have some type of
10 contact. He said he is going to give me
11 lights. Now I have to order lights. So I
12 could say I'll be safe.

13 And I hope all senior citizens
14 also around the world will be safe too. I'm
15 58. I can't -- I'm in worse shape than I have
16 ever been. I made it down here with another
17 lady. I don't know how I made it down here.
18 She brought me. That's what I have to testify
19 to today.

20 Light bills. Senior citizens
21 don't stand a chance. We don't stand a
22 chance. Nobody cares. Just like sweeping up
23 under the rug. That's what I have to say.
24 But my medication I had to destroy and go to
25 the hospital so I had lights. My life is

1 based upon lights. Got to have lights. Bills
2 is too high. Thank you.

3 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
4 Liz Hernandez.

5 LIZ HERNANDEZ
6 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
7 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
8 testified and said as follows:

9 MR. PRICE: Please state your
10 name.

11 MS. HERNANDEZ: My name is Liz
12 Hernandez. I'm the Property Services Director
13 of the Cleveland Housing Network, 2999 Payne
14 Avenue, Cleveland 44114.

15 I'm here today to speak to the
16 need for weatherization and energy efficiency
17 programs that will lower the energy costs for
18 low-income customers, as well as others if
19 programs were made available.

20 As rates continue to climb, energy
21 conservation is one of the few ways that
22 struggling low-income residents will be able
23 to impact their deepening and disproportionate
24 energy burden.

25 Cleveland Housing Network is one

1 of the leaders in providing low-income energy
2 service provider to the community for over 20
3 years. CHN has worked in partnership with
4 many community development organizations
5 throughout the northeast Ohio territory to
6 provide their residents these services.

7 Cleveland Housing Network
8 administers the Dominion East Ohio energy
9 program, receives funding from the FirstEnergy
10 Community Connections program through Ohio
11 Partners of Affordable Energy, and works with
12 the City of Cleveland in servicing residents
13 with the State of Ohio's Home Weatherization
14 Assistance program.

15 In addition, Cleveland Housing
16 Network is one of the service providers of the
17 Electrical Partnership program providing
18 electrical baseboard audits and measures to
19 high electric users in the FirstEnergy
20 territory. Our experience in service delivery
21 and technical know how is deep.

22 When fully funded, CHN is able to
23 provide comprehensive services, both electric
24 baseload energy efficiency programs, as well
25 as gas conservation, in addition to providing

1 for health and safety related measures to
2 allow for full weatherization measures to be
3 installed.

4 An example of health and safety
5 measures would be the correction of a furnace
6 venting program or a blocked chimney that
7 could potentially cause carbon monoxide to
8 escape into the home, or the correction of
9 faulty wiring that's needed to ensure the safe
10 installation of cellulose materials to
11 insulate the walls and attic.

12 With regards to FirstEnergy
13 funding specifically: Funding is currently
14 not meeting the needs of the low-income
15 residents in the FirstEnergy territory. For
16 the past several years the funding level of
17 \$2.7 million has been allocated to the
18 Community Connections program.

19 This funding amount is spread
20 throughout the FirstEnergy territories of Ohio
21 Edison, Toledo Edison and the Cleveland
22 Electric Illuminating service territories.

23 A network of community development
24 organizations have been involved in delivering
25 services throughout the communities of

1 northern Ohio, implementing the program as a
2 coordinated effort with other energy
3 efficiency programs funded by utilities and
4 the State of Ohio. It is a crucial component
5 to be able to impact the total energy usage of
6 the low-income client.

7 The FirstEnergy program allows for
8 the replacement of inefficient, high use, what
9 we call energy hog refrigerators with an
10 energy star appliance based on metering the
11 appliance. It also allows for the
12 installation of efficient lighting with the
13 installation of compact fluorescent bulbs in
14 areas where they are used the most in the
15 home.

16 In addition, the repair of faulty,
17 dangerous wiring in owner-occupied homes and
18 roof repair or replacement are allowable
19 measures, done to be able to fully insulate
20 the walls and attics in a safe manner. The
21 funding provided by FirstEnergy allows for
22 leveraging additional dollars.

23 While electric baseload programs
24 may average a thousand dollars with repairs
25 included, the leveraged dollars amount to

1 three times that amount from the state and
2 Dominion programs. The energy savings from
3 these programs can lower the usage of a lower
4 income consumer by anywhere from 30 to 45
5 percent. We have had some even higher.

6 FirstEnergy funding in 2007 and
7 2008 was expended well before the end of the
8 funding cycle, with most agencies requesting
9 additional money to meet the growing needs of
10 their communities. However, there were no
11 additional dollars to be had.

12 As well, there is currently no
13 funding in place for 2009 and beyond.
14 Immediate attention to this funding crisis is
15 needed to avoid discontinuing these valued
16 programs. No FirstEnergy funding means
17 putting in jeopardy the ability of energy
18 program providers to provide a comprehensive
19 service.

20 Many clients will be denied any
21 service without FirstEnergy funding, which is
22 needed to make the required safety repairs to
23 the electrical system to allow for the
24 insulation programs, as I mentioned
25 previously.

1 As well, no baseload work at all
2 will be done without a renewed funding
3 commitment by FirstEnergy, which needs to be a
4 part of any rate agreement.

5 The funding has been inadequate
6 despite the growing need and the increased
7 capacity of the providers to get to those
8 clients in need to provide this service.

9 I urge the commission to seriously
10 consider that this company cannot continue to
11 raise its rates without a serious commitment
12 to energy conservation for low-income
13 customers and for all customers who are
14 interested in reducing their consumption.

15 The only way to reduce the energy
16 burden of those who are low income or middle
17 income is to invest in conservation programs.
18 The number of persons eligible and in need of
19 services in northern Ohio far outweighs the
20 availability of funding to provide such
21 services.

22 In addition, agencies are also
23 being asked by struggling residents in their
24 community who do not fit the income guidelines
25 for these same services reflecting the

1 struggles of the working poor and the middle
2 class customers who fall outside the 150
3 percent of federal poverty level that most
4 programs use as the guidelines for
5 eligibility. We must work on a program design
6 that will assist with their need to conserve
7 and reduce their expenses.

8 In summary, Cleveland Housing
9 Network is advocating that the PUCO include
10 the funding of the Community Connections
11 program currently administered through Ohio
12 Partners for Affordable Energy at a much
13 higher level. The current funding needs to be
14 at an amount triple its current amount and
15 allow for the servicing of clients outside the
16 poverty limits. I would suggest looking at an
17 amount of \$10 million annually for the next
18 ten years as a starting point.

19 As well, there needs to be a
20 mechanism that PUCO puts in place to hold
21 FirstEnergy to its promises made in rate cases
22 around the funding efficiency programs.

23 It has been frustrating to see
24 that moneys promised the low-income community
25 have not always been delivered as promised.

1 Several years ago many millions of dollars
2 that were part of a settlement to fund these
3 same low-income programs was diverted to
4 another organization that was building a few
5 all electric homes.

6 While it may have been a worthy
7 project, it did not have the impact of
8 thousands of FirstEnergy low-income customers
9 that could have benefited from this funding
10 through the established network of providers
11 as I've described today.

12 Thank you for your time and
13 attention.

14 MR. PRICE: Next witness is
15 Loretta Hunter.

16 LORETTA HUNTER
17 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
18 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
19 testified and said as follows:

20 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
21 and address for the record.

22 MS. HUNTER: My name is Loretta
23 Hunter, 9813 Orleans Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

24 I am a 59 year old grandmother who
25 is reparenting. I reparented six of my

1 grandchildren and I currently have four
2 grandchildren in the home. I'm also a cancer
3 survivor. I'm also very ill.

4 I have a number of illnesses. I
5 have bronchitis. I have a grandson that has
6 bronchial asthma. I also have congestive
7 heart failure.

8 Trying to decide whether to buy my
9 medication or to buy shoes for my
10 grandchildren or how much food to buy for my
11 grandchildren in order to pay the rising cost
12 of the utilities, which we do need.

13 If my lights are cut off, I do not
14 have gas because my stove comes on because of
15 electricity. My oven comes on because of
16 electricity. My furnace works because of
17 electricity and my hot water tank works
18 because of electricity. We are on a fixed
19 income. It is very hard for us.

20 I know that you probably have to
21 make rate increases, but think about the
22 people that don't get the increases. When we
23 get an increase, cost of living increase on
24 our checks or whatever, any other things that
25 we get it gets increased. If we're on a fixed

1 income where our rate is allocated for our
2 rent because of how much money we pay, our
3 rent goes up. So when we get the little bit
4 increase, then we get more taken away from us.

5 It is very hard for us to pay the
6 rates that we have. Even if we're on PIP or
7 whatever. It is very, very hard. I wish you
8 would think seriously about the impact that
9 would be placed upon the people of the
10 community when you make this rate hike.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
13 Mary Dodd. You're going to pass?

14 MS. DODD: Yes.

15 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
16 Steve Indak.

17 STEVE INDAK
18 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
19 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
20 testified and said as follows:

21 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
22 and address for the record.

23 MR. INDAK: My name is Steve
24 Indak. I work for Congressman Dennis J.
25 Kucinich, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood,

1 Ohio.

2 I'd like to read for you all here
3 a letter that Congressman Kucinich sent to
4 Chairman Schrieber today on this case. It
5 reads as follows: Dear Chairman Schreiber, I
6 strongly oppose FirstEnergy's proposed
7 Electric Security Plan or ESP which would
8 increase consumer electric bills from four to
9 six percent each of the next three years, not
10 counting the proposed distribution rate.

11 My constituents should not be
12 strapped with such a utility increase.
13 Natural gas prices are up; gasoline prices are
14 up; prescription drug prices are up as were
15 referenced earlier. Grocery prices are up.

16 A seemingly insignificant electric
17 bill increase could lead to low-income
18 individuals and families having to choose
19 between groceries, prescription drugs or
20 transportation.

21 Over 15,500 homeowners in Cuyahoga
22 County fell victim to foreclosure in 2007.
23 Numbers for 2008 suggest this trend is only
24 worsening. High utility bills were
25 undoubtedly a contributing factor. Such an

1 increase would contribute to additional
2 foreclosures in the future.

3 Now, electricity is basic
4 necessity. Payment is not optional. Rate
5 hikes like this hit those hardest who are
6 already living at the edge of their means. We
7 must not let FirstEnergy dump their purported
8 costs onto low-income and fixed-income people
9 like seniors, while FirstEnergy racks up
10 profits.

11 In 2007 FirstEnergy posted a net
12 income of \$1.31 billion. According to the
13 publication Business Week, the president and
14 CEO of FirstEnergy received a total calculated
15 compensation of \$12,753,326 in 2006, five
16 times higher than the industry average for
17 that same year for that same position.

18 As a result of deregulation,
19 FirstEnergy has been driven by motivation to
20 put profit above the public interest. This
21 culture has led to a lack of maintenance and
22 deterioration of their infrastructure. This
23 was also mentioned earlier.

24 FirstEnergy's long history of
25 management failures and role in the 2003

1 blackout have left many in northeast Ohio with
2 no faith in their private electric utility
3 company.

4 In August 2003 I filed a complaint
5 with the PUCO to revoke FirstEnergy's license
6 to operate in northeast Ohio. Federal
7 investigations searching for the causes of the
8 blackout have since confirmed the complicity
9 of FirstEnergy. The ten page complaint cites
10 multiple violations of federal and state
11 regulations, as well as Enron-like accounting
12 as the reason that FirstEnergy is not suitable
13 or capable to serve the residents of northeast
14 Ohio. We have seen examples of such
15 accounting in the ESP proposal in discussion
16 today.

17 FirstEnergy should not be
18 permitted to operate in such a reckless
19 fashion while being rewarded with rate
20 increases that will continue to pad their
21 pockets at the expense of my constituents.

22 Although Ohio Senate Bill 221
23 mandated FirstEnergy to file an ESP, the
24 PUCO's hands are not tied in accepting the
25 inflated provisions of it. In fact, the PUCO

1 is charged with determining if excess profit
2 occurred under an approved ESP. The PUCO
3 should save itself from making a future
4 determination with mandating a reasonable ESP
5 for Ohio's consumers.

6 As part of this case, FirstEnergy
7 lowered their original proposed distribution
8 rate annual increase of \$340 million by more
9 than half to \$150 million per year. Such a
10 dramatic change should make us all extremely
11 skeptical and hesitant. FirstEnergy now wants
12 \$150 million more, but FirstEnergy needs zero
13 increases to continue to make a reasonable
14 profit.

15 I thank you for holding a series
16 of public hearings on this important issue,
17 including this one here today in Cleveland. I
18 respectfully remind you that the reason for
19 the PUCO's existence is to ensure adequate
20 consumer protections are in place.

21 A decision to allow FirstEnergy to
22 raise their rates would be a slap in the face
23 to consumers that are facing more and more
24 increased costs of their own every day.

25 The PUCO should seize this

1 valuable opportunity to protect the public
2 from another attempt at price gouging.

3 MR. PRICE: Anyone who has not had
4 an opportunity to sign the sign-up sheet here
5 who would like to testify please do so.

6 Our next witness is Stefanie
7 Spear.

8 STEFANIE SPEAR
9 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
10 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
11 testified and said as follows:

12 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
13 and address for the record.

14 MS. SPEAR: My name is Stefanie
15 Spear, 5 Skyline Drive in Moreland Hills,
16 Ohio.

17 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

18 MS. SPEAR: I currently receive my
19 electricity for both my home and business from
20 FirstEnergy via the Illuminating Company. My
21 community is one of the 126 member communities
22 that receives its electricity rates through
23 the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council
24 (NOPEC).

25 I fully support governmental and

1 community aggregation and believe that the
2 decisions made by the Public Utilities
3 Commission of Ohio should ensure the
4 continuation of organizations like NOPEC.

5 Large scale opt-out governmental
6 aggregation is good for residential and small
7 business customers because it provides
8 purchasing power, keeps the energy market
9 competitive and helps make certain that Ohio
10 remains open to other power sources that can
11 provide financial savings.

12 In addition to financial savings,
13 I feel that it is extremely important that the
14 PUCO ensure that electricity companies
15 throughout Ohio meet or beat the renewable
16 energy standard and energy efficiency
17 benchmarks set by the passage of Senate Bill
18 221.

19 In the State of Ohio more than 87
20 percent of our energy comes from the burning
21 of coal and Ohio ranks fourth in the nation
22 for carbon dioxide emission which scientists
23 say is contributing to climate change and
24 global warming. I believe that the PUCO plays
25 a major role in renewable energy future for

1 our state and must make sure that all of the
2 decisions it makes encourages the transition
3 to cleaner energy sources.

4 Currently NOPEC has a letter of
5 intent with Florida Power and Light to supply
6 electricity to the 126 NOPEC member
7 communities in northeast Ohio over a three
8 year period beginning in 2009.

9 This letter of intent includes an
10 agreement that would exceed renewable energy
11 provisions of the statute by at least 50
12 percent. Florida Power and Light is the
13 nation's leading generator of wind and solar
14 power and they are currently investigating the
15 possibility of developing, constructing,
16 owning and operating wind energy projects in
17 Ohio.

18 Under the proposed transaction,
19 Florida Power and Light will, through its
20 power marketing and competitive retail
21 subsidiaries, provide power that based on
22 current energy prices could result in
23 substantial cost savings for 600,000 electric
24 customers in nine counties in northeast Ohio.

25 Senate Bill 221 recognized the

1 importance of governmental aggregation and
2 states that, and I'm quoting, "the PUCO is
3 directed to adopt rules that encourage and
4 promote large-scale governmental aggregation.
5 To this end, the PUCO is required to conduct
6 an immediate review of its existing rules.
7 This requirement gives governmental
8 aggregators such as NOPEC a meaningful
9 opportunity to persuade the PUCO to address
10 some of the hurdles faced by aggregation
11 programs, such as switching fees and to adopt
12 rules that will ease the administrative
13 burdens that can interfere with the success of
14 aggregation programs. The PUCO is also
15 directed to consider the effect on large-scale
16 governmental aggregation of any
17 non-by-passable generation charge that is
18 newly approved in the context of an electric
19 security plan."

20 Senate Bill 221 also states that
21 "Customers participating in governmental
22 aggregation programs established under
23 4928.20, Revised Code, will not be required to
24 pay any surcharge resulting from the phase-in
25 of a standard service offer plan, either a

1 market-based offer or electric security plan
2 that is not proportionate to the benefits
3 received by such customers, as a group,
4 receive. Customers participating in
5 governmental aggregation programs will not be
6 required to pay the utility for standby
7 generation service where the aggregation
8 program elects not to take such service."

9 I have several concerns relating
10 to FirstEnergy's proposed rate plan.
11 FirstEnergy's plan to spend \$25 million on
12 energy efficiency programs over the next five
13 years does not specify in what areas they will
14 spend their money in.

15 I suggest that there should be
16 dedicated funding for energy efficiency
17 programs in the residential sector, a
18 commitment to provide energy efficiency
19 programs in each of their service territories
20 and FirstEnergy make a bigger commitment to
21 energy efficiency than what they have planned.
22 Other Ohio utilities like American Electric
23 Power have proposed investing \$178 million
24 over a much smaller service territory.

25 FirstEnergy also neglects to

1 explain in their energy efficiency plan who
2 will run these programs and how will they
3 verify that these efficiency savings are real?
4 Other states require a third party
5 administrator specialist to monitor or operate
6 utility energy efficiency programs. It is
7 also unclear who will pay for efficiency
8 improvements and who will benefit from the
9 efficiency programs.

10 I request that FirstEnergy put
11 energy efficiency as a top priority. By
12 cutting energy use and investing in clean
13 energy sources, we can reduce air, water and
14 global warming pollution. Every dollar we
15 spend on energy efficiency is \$3 cheaper than
16 producing that electricity from a coal or
17 nuclear power plant.

18 Opportunities to be more energy
19 efficiency are abundant. There is a huge need
20 to increase public awareness of the simplicity
21 of being more energy efficient. Not only will
22 Ohioans contribute to a healthier environment,
23 but they will save money.

24 Over the past year I have worked
25 to lower my energy consumption in my home,

1 which also happens to be where I work. I live
2 in a 2,000 square foot home with my husband
3 and two kids. My current average monthly
4 usage is 394 kilowatts per hour. I was able
5 to lower my energy use by putting most of my
6 electronics on power strips. This way I'm
7 only using what I need when I need it and
8 power strips completely turn off appliances
9 and electronics that would otherwise be on
10 standby mode.

11 The energy efficiency programs
12 I've started in my home have cost me virtually
13 nothing to implement. I think that electric
14 energy users need to be aware of their energy
15 consumption and I'm thankful that my energy
16 bill is easy to read and provides a lot of
17 information, including a bar graph of my
18 usage, so that I can easily monitor my usage
19 and measure my successes in my energy
20 efficiency programs in my home.

21 I encourage FirstEnergy to make
22 educating their customers on energy efficiency
23 programs a priority and offer free energy
24 audits, rebates on energy efficient
25 appliances, discounts on home weatherization,

1 old appliance pickup and disposal services and
2 investing in smart metering.

3 I can't express enough my feeling
4 of the importance of investing in the
5 renewable energy future for our region and
6 strong energy efficiency standards. The
7 burning of coal in our state is contributing
8 greatly to climate change, global warming and
9 air and water pollution.

10 According to the Environmental
11 Protection Agency, Cuyahoga County's air
12 quality is in nonattainment for failing to
13 meet the national ambient air quality
14 standards. There are many restrictions on the
15 amount of fish we can eat out of Lake Erie due
16 to mercury contamination, which the burning of
17 coal is partly to blame.

18 The mining of coal also
19 significantly damages the environment. The 18
20 coal-fired power plants that line the Ohio
21 River have turned that area into a sacrifice
22 zone to provide the rest of our state with
23 power.

24 Currently one community in Meigs
25 County is fighting five additional coal

1 related power plants which would make for a
2 total of nine power plants in a ten mile
3 radius for this community, making it the
4 largest concentration of coal plants in the
5 nation.

6 I recommend that the PUCO make its
7 decisions based on what is best for the
8 customer and the environment and be sure that
9 Ohio-based utilities meet or beat the
10 standards set in Senate Bill 221.

11 The PUCO also needs to encourage
12 and promote large-scale governmental
13 aggregation and ensure that organizations like
14 NOPEC can provide its customers with a
15 competitive or lower rate while investing in
16 the renewable energy future for our state that
17 includes strong energy efficiency standards.

18 Thank you for listening to my
19 testimony today. I look forward to the PUCO
20 decision on this important and precedent
21 setting matter.

22 MR. PRICE: Anybody that wants to
23 testify who has not had a chance to sign up?
24 Seeing none.

25 Thank you. We're concluded for

1 the afternoon. We will resume again tonight
2 at 6:30 in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

3 - - -

4 (Hearing concluded at 1:30 o'clock p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF OHIO,)
) SS:
SUMMIT COUNTY,)

I, Lori K. Phillips, an RMR and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that the proceedings were by me reduced to Stenotypy, afterwards transcribed upon a computer; and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the proceedings so given as aforesaid.

I do further certify that these proceedings were taken at the time and place in the foregoing caption specified, and were completed without adjournment.

I do further certify that I am not a relative, counsel or attorney of any party, or otherwise interested in the event of this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Akron, Ohio, on this 30th day of September, 2008.



Lori K. Phillips, RMR and
Notary Public in and for the State
of Ohio.

My Commission expires December 2, 2010.

\$	[2] 59:21 61:6	[1] 1:17	6	Ad
\$1,000	12:00	25th	600,000	[1] 19:4
[1] 20:10	[1] 1:13	[1] 1:12	[1] 61:23	Add
\$1,435	13.4	2999	601	[1] 10:4
[1] 19:15	[6] 9:8 10:3 11:	[1] 45:13	[3] 1:11 3:1 4:13	Addition
\$1.31	17 21:22 27:20	29th	651	[6] 34:4 46:15,
[2] 13:2 56:12	33:19	[2] 19:15 28:19	[1] 21:13	25 48:16 50:22
\$1.5	13200	2nd	[2] 15:22 26:25	60:12
[1] 22:16	[1] 8:17	[1] 12:9	68	Additional
\$10	14	3	[1] 15:22	[7] 16:14 35:20
[1] 51:17	[1] 29:4	30	6:30	48:22 49:9,11
\$100,000	14400	[4] 12:15 27:21	[1] 68:2	56:1 66:25
[2] 13:8,11	[1] 54:25	49:4	7	Additionally
\$11.7	14th	30,000	70-plus	[1] 5:22
[1] 34:1	[1] 12:12	[1] 43:4	[2] 16:12 17:17	Address
\$12,753,326	15,500	30th	749	[16] 4:2,10 8:15
[1] 56:15	[1] 55:21	[1] 69:15	[1] 14:15	11:2 14:15 21:
\$134,000	150	31	[1] 2:18	10 23:9 26:5 28:
[1] 9:20	[2] 41:22 51:2	[2] 9:12 33:17	76	17 32:17 37:21,
\$150	18	32000	[1] 1:19	25 52:21 54:22
[2] 58:9,12	[2] 22:15 66:19	[1] 11:6	762-0031	59:13 62:9
\$1500	1:30	[2] 1:19,21	[1] 1:21	Addressing
[2] 15:10,15	[1] 68:4	332-0607	8	[2] 42:2
\$178	2	[1] 1:20	800	Adequate
[1] 63:23	[1] 69:21	394	[1] 1:20	[1] 58:19
\$180,000	2,000	[1] 65:4	87	Adequately
[1] 34:17	[1] 65:2	4	[1] 60:19	[1] 40:17
\$190,000	20	40	9	Adjournment
[1] 10:10	[1] 46:2	[1] 29:15	9813	[1] 69:11
\$2.7	200,000	4027	[1] 52:23	Administer
[1] 47:17	[1] 13:15	[1] 28:18	A	[1] 7:1
\$25	2003	44114	Ability	Administered
[2] 41:10 63:11	[3] 29:4 56:25	[3] 3:2 4:14 45:	[1] 49:17	[1] 51:11
\$2500	57:4	14	Able	Administers
[1] 15:12	2006	44116	[6] 27:24 45:22	[1] 46:8
\$280,000	[1] 56:15	[1] 32:20	46:22 48:5,19	Administration
[1] 22:2	2007	44311	65:4	[3] 5:9 40:14 41:
\$3	[5] 12:9 13:1 49:	[1] 1:18	Above-entitled	19
[1] 64:15	6 55:22 56:11	45	[1] 1:10	Administrative
\$340	2008	[1] 49:4	Absolutely	[1] 62:12
[1] 58:8	[6] 1:12 9:13 33:	4510	[1] 6:16	Administrator
\$500	17 49:7 55:23	[1] 37:23	Absorb	[1] 64:5
[1] 19:18	69:16	4928.143	[1] 35:4	Admire
\$8	2009	[2] 1:7 2:9	Absorbed	[1] 39:25
[1] 38:10	[5] 15:4,11 16:3	4928.20	[1] 36:20	Adopt
\$800,000	49:13 61:8	[1] 62:23	Abundant	[2] 62:3,11
[1] 13:9	2010	5	[1] 64:19	Advance
0	[1] 69:21	[1] 59:15	Accepting	[2] 11:22 38:19
08-935-EL-SSO	21600	5.32	[1] 57:24	Advantages
[2] 1:3 2:4	[1] 32:19	[1] 10:6	Accessible	[2] 7:12,15
1	221	5.9	[1] 4:22	Adversely
10	[7] 16:7,24 57:	[1] 35:6	According	[1] 27:18
[1] 29:16	22 60:18 61:25	5.99	[2] 56:12 66:10	Advocating
10-year	62:20 67:10	[1] 15:18	Accounting	[1] 51:9
[1] 13:3	222nd	[1] 61:11	[2] 57:11,15	Affairs
11	[1] 21:13	50	Achieve	[2] 4:12,24
[2] 12:9 22:6	2300	[1] 1:17	[1] 37:2	Affect
11.7	[1] 32:2	58	[1] 69:13	[1] 27:19
[1] 34:4	248	59	Active	Affecting
11136	[2] 9:3 33:8	[1] 52:24	[1] 40:15	[1] 30:7
[1] 26:7	249			Affixed
12	[4] 11:13 33:25			[1] 69:15
[3] 12:13 15:6,9	36:1,25			Afford
126	2501			[2] 35:4 40:25
				Affordable

[2] 46:11 51:12 Afloat [1] 22:22 Aforesaid [1] 69:8 Afternoon [5] 2:1 3:11 19: 2 32:21 68:1 Afterwards [1] 69:7 Age [16] 4:6 8:11 10: 23 14:11 18:21 21:4 23:5 26:1 28:13 32:13 37: 17 42:8 45:6 52: 17 54:18 59:9 Agencies [2] 49:8 50:22 Agency [3] 17:24 18:1 66:11 Aggregation [11] 60:1,6 62:1, 4,10,14,16,22 63:5,7 67:13 Aggregators [1] 62:8 Ago [2] 21:14 52:1 Agreement [2] 50:4 61:10 Ahead [1] 4:3 Aid [1] 3:13 Ain't [2] 42:20 43:12 Air [5] 29:12 64:13 66:9,11,13 Akron [3] 1:18 2:19 69: 15 Allocated [2] 47:17 54:1 Allow [6] 7:8 18:16 47: 2 49:23 51:15 58:21 Allowable [1] 48:18 Allowing [3] 10:18 26:12 33:3 Allows [5] 20:3,22 48:7, 11,21 Almost [2] 20:11 43:20 Alone [2] 9:20 22:5 Alternative [1] 7:5 Ambient [1] 66:13	American [1] 63:22 Amount [11] 9:23 25:14- 15 34:6 47:19 48:25 49:1 51: 14,17 66:15 Amounts [1] 9:14 Analysis [2] 34:8 36:5 Analyzing [1] 34:6 Andre [1] 3:5 Announcement [1] 12:25 Annual [2] 9:19 58:8 Annually [1] 51:17 Anticipate [1] 34:9 Anticipated [1] 35:24 Anyway [1] 24:6 Appearances [1] 2:14 Appliance [3] 48:10-11 66:1 Appliances [2] 65:8,25 Applicant [1] 2:17 Application [5] 1:4 2:5 5:20, 24 6:19 Applications [1] 6:8 Apply [1] 5:6 Appreciate [1] 10:19 Appreciative [2] 27:15 33:6 Appropriate [1] 6:4 Approval [1] 6:17 Approved [4] 15:2 35:19 58:2 62:18 Arched [1] 29:13 Area [2] 30:6 66:21 Areas [2] 48:14 63:13 Arise [1] 23:16 Arthur [1] 2:17 Article [1] 13:5	Aspects [1] 30:20 Assessed [1] 17:4 Assigned [1] 2:12 Assist [3] 23:15 27:4 51:6 Assistance [5] 41:16-17,21, 24 46:14 Assistant [1] 26:8 ASSOCIATES [1] 1:16 Assure [1] 5:8 Asthma [1] 53:6 Attached [1] 13:5 Attempt [2] 27:4 59:2 Attention [2] 49:14 52:13 Attic [1] 47:11 Attics [1] 48:20 Attitudes [1] 20:8 Attorney [3] 2:12 3:12 69: 12 Audits [2] 46:18 65:24 August [2] 29:4 57:4 Authority [2] 1:6 2:7 Authorized [1] 33:21 Availability [1] 50:20 Available [1] 45:19 Avenue [7] 1:12 3:1 4: 13 14:15 45:14 52:23 54:25 Average [7] 15:19-20 16: 9 41:4 48:24 56: 16 65:3 Avoid [1] 49:15 Award [1] 19:16 Aware [3] 5:9 17:11 65: 14 Awareness [1] 64:20	B Bag [1] 44:5 Ballot [1] 22:22 Bamboo [1] 30:5 Bar [1] 65:17 Baseboard [1] 46:18 Based [9] 7:13 16:19 42:13 45:1 48: 10 61:21 63:1 67:7,9 Baseload [3] 46:24 48:23 50:1 Basic [5] 23:16 24:16 26:17 34:25 56:3 Beat [2] 60:15 67:9 Beautiful [2] 19:19 20:7 Bedford [1] 14:15 Beeler [2] 2:25 3:1 Begin [1] 2:14 Beginning [2] 15:3 61:8 Behalf [5] 2:17 3:4,6, 14 4:16 Behind [1] 30:5 Benchmarks [1] 60:17 Beneficial [1] 9:7 Benefit [1] 64:8 Benefited [2] 27:14 52:9 Benefits [2] 27:12 63:2 Bernard [2] 42:6-7 Best [3] 6:22 7:24 67: 7 Between [1] 55:19 Beyond [1] 49:13 Big [1] 7:3 Bigger [1] 63:20 Bill [21] 15:3,14-15 16:7,12,24 19:3,	1314182010 2625551757: 2260176125 6220651667: 10 Billion [2] 1325612 Billions [2] 3156 Bills [5] 3624420 45155824 BISH [1] 116 Bishassociates@neo.rr.c [1] 122 Bit [1] 543 Black [2] 191124 Blackout [2] 5718 Blame [1] 6617 Blaw [1] 188 Blocked [1] 476 Board [1] 3225 Bcb [1] 1116 Booth [1] 2220 Borrowed [1] 1918 Bother [1] 2014 Bought [1] 448 Boulevard [1] 1116 Bracing [1] 221 Bracking [1] 3421 Bring [3] 2510407 417 Brings [1] 411 Brockview [1] 3724 Branchial [1] 536 Branchitis [1] 535 Brought [2] 3814418 Brk [1] 4314 Brljet [6] 10813815 22326183413 Brljeted
--	---	---	---	--

<p>[1] 35:2 Build [2] 7:12 11:21 Building [1] 52:4 Buildings [2] 11:18,24 Built [1] 41:3 Bulbs [1] 48:13 Burden [3] 17:1 45:24 50:16 Burdens [1] 62:13 Burning [3] 60:20 66:7,16 Bus [2] 43:25 Buses [1] 22:12 Business [11] 8:21 9:25 11:5 12:15 21:12 27:12 31:9, 25 56:13 59:19 60:7 Businesses [4] 6:11,24 7:25 27:4 Buy [5] 12:5 43:8 53:8-10</p>	<p>[1] 44:5 Case [9] 1:3 2:4,12, 24 18:3 34:2 37:3 55:4 58:6 Cases [1] 51:21 Category [1] 15:21 Caused [3] 12:4 29:13-14 Causes [1] 57:7 Causing [3] 22:3 31:16,18 Caution [1] 24:20 CEI [5] 11:19 12:1, 12,25 36:12 Cellulose [1] 47:10 Cent [1] 18:10 Center [3] 3:16 23:12 32:19 CEO [1] 56:14 CEOs [2] 19:10 39:17 Certain [1] 60:9 Certified [16] 4:7 8:12 10:24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37:18 42:9 45:7 52:18 54:19 59:10 Certify [3] 69:6,9,12 CFOs [1] 19:10 Chagrin [1] 11:6 Chairman [3] 39:2 55:4-5 Chambers [1] 1:11 Chance [3] 44:21-22 67:23 Change [4] 27:5 58:10 60:23 66:8 Changed [1] 24:5 Changes [2] 5:12 27:17 Characteristics [1] 36:6 Charge [1] 62:17 Charged</p>	<p>[1] 58:1 Cheaper [1] 64:15 Checks [1] 53:24 Cheryl [2] 1:11 2:13 Chief [3] 4:12,24 32:22 Children [5] 22:5,9 26:14 31:19 33:5 Chimney [1] 47:6 CHN [2] 46:3,22 Choose [1] 55:18 Church [1] 31:25 Cites [1] 57:9 Cities [1] 11:10 Citizenry [2] 6:14 35:21 Citizens [10] 3:15 5:4,8, 15 7:20 8:6 19:6 32:24 44:13,20 City [38] 1:11 2:25 3:4,7 4:12,17,20-21,25 5:2,8,15, 17,22 6:1,10,14-15,21 7:20,22 8:1,6,17,22 9:1,3, 18 11:5,9 21:12 25:7 26:9 32:19, 23 33:1 46:12 City's [1] 7:5 Class [2] 43:15 51:2 Clean [1] 64:12 Cleaner [1] 61:3 Cleveland [40] 1:5,11-12 2:6,25 3:1,7,12, 17,19 4:13-14, 17,19,21,25 5:2, 8,15,23 6:4,11, 14-15 7:4 8:7 23:12 37:24 38:9 45:13-14,25 46:7,12,15 47:21 51:8 52:23 58:17 68:2 Cleveland's [2] 5:4 7:25 Clickenger [5] 21:2-3,7,11 Client [1] 48:6</p>	<p>Clients [3] 49:20 50:8 51:15 Climate [2] 60:23 66:8 Climb [1] 45:20 Close [1] 12:10 Closing [1] 28:6 Coal [7] 60:21 64:16 66:7,17-18,25 67:4 Coal-fired [1] 66:20 Coalition [2] 3:15,18 Coattail [1] 20:23 Code [3] 1:7 2:9 62:23 Collect [1] 35:8 Collecting [2] 30:20 31:11 Collectively [1] 33:23 College [1] 39:8 Columbus [1] 5:17 Coma [1] 42:15 Comforted [1] 38:5 Commencing [1] 1:12 Comments [1] 5:3 Commercial [2] 36:7,9 Commission [10] 1:1 2:3 14:3 26:12 33:3 37:5,7 50:9 60:3 69:21 Commissioned [1] 69:6 Commissioner [2] 1:11 2:13 Commitment [5] 7:21 50:3,11 63:18,20 Commitments [1] 38:24 Communicate [1] 7:19 Communities [5] 41:17 47:25 49:10 59:21 61:7 Community [25] 25:9 26:20 27:13 37:23 38:</p>	<p>13,19 39:1,4,14 40:5,10,24 46:2, 4,10 47:18,23 50:24 51:10,24 54:10 59:21 60:1 66:24 67:3 Compact [1] 48:13 Companies [3] 30:24 39:18 60:14 Company [19] 1:5-6 2:6-7, 15,18 12:18 24:21 25:16 29:19 30:4 32:3 43:10, 12 50:10 57:3 59:20 Compensation [1] 56:15 Competitive [4] 7:12 60:9 61:20 67:15 Complaint [2] 57:4,9 Complete [1] 34:9 Completed [1] 69:11 Completely [1] 65:8 Complicity [1] 57:8 Component [1] 48:4 Comprehensive [2] 46:23 49:18 Comprises [1] 3:15 Computer [1] 69:7 COMPUTERIZED [1] 1:15 Concentration [1] 67:4 Concern [1] 7:4 Concerns [7] 4:22 5:3 7:5, 18 28:8 40:12 63:9 Concluded [3] 36:5 67:25 68:4 Concludes [1] 25:21 Conditioning [1] 29:12 Conditions [2] 6:10,23 Conduct [1] 62:5 Confirmed [1] 57:8 Congestive [1] 53:6</p>
---	--	--	---	---

Congressman [2] 54:24 55:3	[3] 55:25 60:23 66:7	[16] 31:7 36:7, 9,12 45:18 50:13 51:2 52:8 60:7 61:24 62:21 63:3-4 65:22 67:14	[1] 47:24	Disconnected [1] 23:21
Connections [3] 46:10 47:18 51:10	Control [3] 29:23 30:1 34:12	Cut [6] 34:12 35:17 41:21 43:11,24 53:13	Delivery [1] 46:20	Discontinuing [1] 49:15
Consequences [1] 5:10	Controls [1] 22:17	Cuyahoga [2] 55:21 66:11	Denied [1] 49:20	Discount [4] 11:17,23 13:10 36:18
Conservation [5] 25:5 45:21 46:25 50:12,17	Conversations [2] 8:2,4	Cycle [1] 49:8	Dennis [1] 54:24	Discounts [1] 65:25
Conserve [3] 22:14 25:1 51:6	Coordinated [1] 48:2	D	Department [1] 6:2	Discussion [2] 37:13 57:15
Consider [4] 17:7 22:18 50:10 62:15	Correct [1] 69:8	Daily [1] 23:23	Deregulation [1] 56:18	Disposal [1] 66:1
Consideration [1] 8:6	Correction [2] 47:5,8	Damage [1] 12:4	Described [1] 52:11	Disproportionate [1] 45:23
Constant [1] 34:20	Cost [18] 9:9,19,24 13:10,21,25 15:12 17:3 25:11 26:17 27:21 31:8 33:25 43:20 53:11,23 61:23 65:12	Damages [1] 66:19	Design [1] 51:5	Disproportionately [1] 17:3
Constituents [4] 25:3,17 55:11 57:21	Costs [10] 20:3 22:12 27:18 28:2 34:25 35:13 40:20 45:17 56:8 58:24	Dangerous [1] 48:17	Designed [1] 11:19	Distinct [2] 14:4 37:8
Constitutes [1] 25:14	Council [8] 1:11 4:18 5:2 9:5 11:14 34:5 36:25 59:23	Days [2] 34:20 42:20	Desire [2] 7:19 9:13	Distribution [11] 8:25 9:22 21:16,21 29:1 30:16 33:20 34:2 35:25 55:10 58:7
Constructing [1] 61:15	Council's [1] 36:5	Deal [1] 20:18	Despite [1] 50:6	District [17] 9:24 11:10, 12 13:16 26:17, 21,23 27:6,14, 19,23 33:1,8 34:14 35:1,3,18
Consumer [5] 17:24 41:5 49:4 55:8 58:20	Counsel [5] 2:20,23 6:2 7:22 69:12	Dealer [2] 13:1,5	Destroy [1] 44:24	Districts [8] 9:4,8 10:14 22:21 33:8,25 36:17 37:1
Consumers [9] 2:23 3:17 14:18 25:4,20 41:14,23 58:5,23	Counties [1] 61:24	Deals [1] 26:25	Deterioration [1] 56:22	Districts' [1] 36:1
Consumers' [1] 2:22	Counting [1] 55:10	Dear [1] 55:5	Determination [1] 58:4	Disturbs [1] 16:8
Consumption [4] 15:12 50:14 64:25 65:15	County [4] 24:9 55:22 66:25 69:3	December [4] 9:12 12:9 33:17 69:21	Determining [1] 58:1	Diverted [1] 52:3
Contact [2] 31:19 44:10	County's [1] 66:11	Decide [1] 53:8	Detroit [1] 54:25	Doctor [1] 44:7
Contacted [5] 14:25 17:20-23	Coupled [1] 13:4	Decision [2] 58:21 67:20	Devastating [1] 27:12	Dodd [2] 54:13-14
Contain [1] 28:2	Course [1] 11:22	Decisions [5] 10:17 40:19 60:2 61:2 67:7	Develop [1] 40:6	Dollar [1] 64:14
Contamination [1] 66:16	Cover [2] 19:17 24:9	Decrease [3] 13:18,25 25:10	Developing [1] 61:15	Dollars [17] 9:11 15:14 18:10 24:24 25:2,14 26:18 31:5, 7 35:1 39:19 42:4 48:22,24-25 49:11 52:1
Context [1] 62:18	Crisis [1] 49:14	Dedicated [1] 63:16	Development [3] 16:25 46:4 47:23	Dominion [2] 46:8 49:2
Continuation [1] 60:4	Crucial [1] 48:4	Deducted [1] 6:18	Die [2] 42:15 43:22	Domino [2] 24:15 25:18
Continue [12] 6:16 7:23 8:4 9:14 10:14 36:13 39:18,21 45:20 50:10 57:20 58:13	Culture [1] 56:21	Deep [1] 46:21	Diesel [1] 22:12	Done [6] 19:9 22:14 40:5,9 48:19 50:2
Continued [2] 10:12 28:9	Current [10] 9:12 15:15 16:5 33:16,24 35:10 51:13-14 61:22 65:3	Deepening [1] 45:23	Dioxide [1] 60:22	Door [1] 23:17
Contract [1] 30:24	Customer [2] 13:18 67:8	Deeply [1] 16:8	Direct [3] 18:7 26:22 29:7	Down [7] 18:2 22:14
Contribute [2] 56:1 64:22	Customers	Defined [1] 7:10	Directed [2] 62:3,15	
Contributing		Delivered [1] 51:25	Director [4] 8:21 11:4 23:11 45:12	
		Delivering		

33:13 38:20 43: 21 44:16-17 Downsizing [1] 22:8 Downtown [1] 38:8 Drag [1] 22:13 Dramatic [1] 58:10 Drastically [1] 6:9 Drive [1] 59:15 Driven [1] 56:19 Dropped [1] 21:25 Drown [1] 39:18 Drug [1] 55:14 Drugs [1] 55:19 Due [2] 30:11 66:15 Duly [17] 4:7 8:12 10: 24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37: 18 42:9 45:7 52: 18 54:19 59:10 69:6 Dump [1] 56:7 Dunn [1] 3:6 During [5] 6:5,20 36:8, 10 38:24	Edison [13] 1:5-6 2:5,7 14:22 15:1 16: 21 18:6,8 36:12, 15 47:21 Educating [2] 26:22 65:22 Education [19] 9:17 10:13 11:15 12:11 13: 7,21 21:24 22: 25 26:14 27:16 32:25 33:5,9-10, 16,24 35:23 36: 18 37:1 Educational [3] 10:15 14:1 35:10 Effect [7] 5:11 13:7 15: 11 24:15 25:18 37:10 62:15 Effected [1] 29:5 Effects [2] 14:21 17:11 Efficiency [23] 24:24 45:16 46:24 48:3 51: 22 60:16 63:12, 16,18,21 64:1,3, 6-7,9,11,15,19 65:11,20,22 66: 6 67:17 Efficient [3] 48:12 64:21 65:24 Effort [2] 5:14 48:2 Either [2] 38:5 62:25 Elections [1] 34:22 Electric [32] 1:5,7 2:10 5:19 6:12,22 12: 18 15:13 16:17 17:5 19:3 26:13 28:24 33:4,12, 18 35:15 36:2 46:19,23 47:22 48:23 52:5 55:7- 8,16 57:2 61:23 62:18 63:1,22 65:13 Electrical [7] 8:25 9:9,19 10:8 46:17-18 49:23 Electricity [18] 11:18 13:9, 22 15:8,10 41:5 42:13 53:15-18 56:3 59:19,22 60:14 61:6 64:16 Electronics [2] 65:6,9	Elects [1] 63:8 Eligibility [1] 51:5 Eligible [1] 50:18 Eliminate [1] 16:21 Eliminated [1] 16:19 Elsewhere [1] 34:13 Elyria [1] 14:16 Emission [1] 60:22 Employees [2] 22:4 Empowerment [2] 3:16 23:12 Enable [2] 35:9 41:4 Encourage [4] 10:11 62:3 65:21 67:11 Encourages [1] 61:2 End [3] 9:16 49:7 62: 5 Ending [1] 9:12 Energy [79] 7:3,5,14 9: 9,16 10:8,13 11: 14 13:7,13,20 21:24 22:15-16, 24 25:1 27:15, 18 33:9-10,16, 24 35:22 36:18 37:1 39:17 45: 16-17,20,24 46: 1,8,11,24 48:2, 5,9-10 49:2,17 50:12,15 51:12 59:23 60:8,16, 20,25 61:3,10, 16,22 63:12,16, 18,21 64:1,6,11- 13,15,18,21,25 65:5,11,14-15, 19,22-24 66:5-6 67:16-17 Enjoyed [1] 9:5 Enrollment [1] 27:23 Enron [1] 57:11 Enron-like [1] 57:11 Ensure [5] 47:9 58:19 60:3,14 67:13 Enter [1] 9:13	Environment [4] 7:15 64:22 66:19 67:8 Environmental [2] 3:18 66:10 Equal [1] 13:12 Equipment [4] 11:21 12:4-5 22:16 Equivalent [1] 34:16 Erie [1] 66:15 Escape [1] 47:8 ESP [7] 6:7,20 55:7 57:15,23 58:2,4 Especially [1] 36:17 Establish [2] 1:6 2:8 Established [3] 36:14 52:10 62:22 Estimates [1] 27:19 Estimating [1] 34:14 Euclid [3] 21:12-13 22:1 Evening [1] 38:17 Event [1] 69:13 Evidenced [1] 34:22 Evidently [1] 21:24 Exactly [1] 31:14 Examiner [1] 2:12 Example [2] 23:22 47:4 Examples [1] 57:14 Exceed [1] 61:10 Excellent [1] 10:15 Excess [1] 58:1 Executive [1] 23:11 Exist [1] 36:11 Existence [2] 25:9 58:19 Existing [2] 16:6 62:6 Exists [1] 10:12 Expended	[1] 49:7 Expense [1] 57:21 Expenses [1] 51:7 Experience [2] 12:17 46:20 Experienced [1] 35:14 Experiencing [2] 27:23 34:24 Expert [1] 7:22 Experts [1] 6:3 Expire [1] 33:17 Expires [1] 69:21 Explain [4] 20:9 26:13 33:3 64:1 Express [1] 66:3 Expressed [2] 5:3 21:18 Extremely [2] 58:10 60:13
E			F	
E-Mail [1] 1:22 Early [1] 27:19 Ease [1] 62:12 Easement [2] 29:9 32:4 Easily [1] 65:18 East [3] 21:13 28:19 46:8 Easy [1] 65:16 Eat [3] 43:17 66:15 Economic [1] 13:22 Economies [1] 7:13 Edge [1] 56:6			Face [1] 58:22 Faced [2] 22:10 62:10 Facility [1] 35:18 Facing [1] 58:23 Fact [2] 35:19 57:25 Factor [1] 55:25 Failed [1] 34:23 Failing [1] 66:12 Failure [1] 53:7 Failures [2] 34:24 56:25 Fair [1] 3:17 Fairly [1] 23:1 Faith [1] 57:2 Fall [1] 51:2 Familial [1] 24:12 Familiar [1] 38:18 Families [3] 23:15,24 55: 18	

Family [3] 23:19 24:19 43:1	57:9,12,17,23 58:6,11-12,21 59:20 63:20,25 64:10 65:21	[1] 67:19	[2] 19:7 20:12	[1] 55:19
Family's [1] 24:16	FirstEnergy's [10] 5:5,19 6:7 20:23 34:1 55:6 56:24 57:5 63: 10-11	Foster [1] 24:13	Girls [1] 20:7	Grocery [1] 55:15
Far [2] 5:10 50:19		Four [7] 15:18 16:10 17:15 27:22 42: 19 53:1 55:8	Given [3] 12:3 41:13 69:8	Group [4] 14:5 17:2 37: 9 63:3
Fashion [2] 27:7 57:19	Fish [1] 66:15	Fourth [1] 60:21	Giver [1] 24:1	Groups [1] 3:16
Faulty [2] 47:9 48:16	Fisher [1] 7:18	Frank [2] 4:17,25	Global [3] 60:24 64:14 66:8	Growing [2] 49:9 50:6
Favorable [1] 36:6	Fit [2] 15:20 50:24	Free [1] 65:23	Goal [1] 28:25	Growth [2] 16:24 27:25
FAX [1] 1:21	Five [9] 15:18 16:10 17:15 19:20 40: 8,22 56:15 63: 12 66:25	Frustrating [1] 51:23	Goals [1] 28:22	Guards [1] 22:7
Fears [1] 21:17	Fixed [4] 43:8 53:18, 25 56:8	Fuel [2] 22:12 35:13	Golf [1] 20:24	Guess [1] 20:7
Federal [3] 51:3 57:6,10	Fixed-income [1] 56:8	Full [1] 47:2	Gouging [1] 59:2	Guidelines [2] 50:24 51:4
Feedback [1] 16:20	Florida [3] 61:5,12,19	Fully [5] 6:16 7:23 46: 22 48:19 59:25	Governmental [11] 4:12,24 59: 25 60:5 62:1,4, 7,16,21 63:5 67: 12	H
Fees [1] 62:11	Fluctuation [1] 12:7	Fund [3] 27:13 34:13 52:2	Governor [4] 7:17-18 16: 23 17:21	Half [4] 9:20 34:23 43:3 58:9
Fell [1] 55:22	Fluorescent [1] 48:13	Funded [2] 46:22 48:3	Gradual [1] 36:19	Hall [2] 1:11 4:20
Few [5] 12:2 13:12 28:3 45:21 52:4	Foliage [1] 29:13	Funding [24] 26:15 27:4, 8 34:18 46:9 47: 13,16,19 48:21 49:6,8,13-14,16, 21 50:2,5,20 51: 10,13,22 52:9 63:16	Gradualism [1] 37:2	Hand [3] 19:14,16 69: 15
Fighting [1] 66:25	Following [3] 1:13 3:16 15: 4	Future [6] 10:17 56:2 58:3 60:25 66:5 67:16	Gradually [1] 22:24	Hands [1] 57:24
Figure [2] 24:23 41:11	Follows [18] 4:8 8:13 10: 25 12:24 14:13 18:23 21:6 23:7 26:3 28:15 32: 15 37:19 42:10 45:8 52:19 54: 20 55:5 59:11	Funds [1] 25:19	Graduate [1] 39:9	Hard [6] 13:23 36:17 39:7 53:19 54:5, 7
Figures [1] 27:20	Food [4] 23:20 24:19 42:21 53:10	Furnace [2] 47:5 53:16	Grand [1] 42:16	Hardest [1] 56:5
File [1] 57:23	Foot [1] 65:2	Future [6] 10:17 56:2 58:3 60:25 66:5 67:16	Grandchildren [6] 24:9,18 53:1- 2,10-11	Harm [1] 31:17
Filed [3] 5:17,25 57:4	Foreclosure [1] 55:22	Garfield [1] 38:14	Grandkids [1] 24:5	Health [3] 20:4 47:1,4
Finances [1] 35:16	Foreclosures [1] 56:2	Gas [4] 31:25 46:25 53:14 55:13	Grandmother [1] 52:24	Healthier [1] 64:22
Financial [3] 32:22 60:11- 12	Forefront [1] 7:2	Gasoline [1] 55:13	Grandparent [3] 24:1,3,6	Hear [3] 38:11,21 39: 11
Fire [1] 29:14	Foregoing [2] 69:7,10	General [1] 7:10	Grandson [1] 53:5	Heard [1] 5:17
First [21] 4:3,7 8:12 10:6,24 14:12, 25 16:13 18:4, 22 21:5 23:6 26: 2 28:14 32:14 37:18 42:9 45:7 52:18 54:19 59: 10	Forest [1] 29:14	Generation [10] 8:24 9:21 21:17,19 33:20 34:3,7 36:1 62: 17 63:7	Great [2] 6:14 24:23	Hearing [9] 1:10 2:2-3 3: 25 4:19 5:21 38: 15 68:4
FirstEnergy [51] 2:18 5:11, 25 8:3 9:6,10 13:2,19 14:3,18 19:7 21:25 24: 21 28:23 29:3,8 33:7 34:8 36:24 41:9 46:9,19 47: 12,15,20 48:7, 21 49:6,16,21 50:3 51:21 52:8 56:7,9,11,14,19	Forestry [1] 29:23	Generator [2] 43:8 61:13	Greater [3] 3:17 15:25 23:12	Hearings [3] 3:21-22 58:16
	Form [2] 1:7 2:9	Gentleman [1] 17:25	Greatly [1] 66:8	Heart [1] 53:7
	Formerly [1] 23:13	Gentlemen [1] 28:21	Greg [5] 3:3 32:11-12, 18,21	Heights [6] 28:19 29:22 31:24 32:2 38: 14 68:2
	Forward	Ghetto	Grid [3] 29:9 30:22-23	Held [3] 1:10 38:16-17
			Groceries	Help [7] 19:12,21 23: 19 25:5,8-10
				Helpful [1] 33:12

Helps [1] 60:9	Homes [6] 17:10 25:6, 12 41:7 48:17 52:5	[1] 27:6	[23] 8:24 13:12, 22 14:22 15:1 16:3,11,14 17:4, 9,12,16 18:11, 13,16 22:23 26: 16 35:12 37:2 53:21-22 57:20 58:13	[1] 30:6
Hereby [1] 69:6	Honor [4] 2:16,21 3:11, 20	Imperative [1] 7:9	Increasing [4] 9:25 23:22 24:14 27:22	Invading [1] 30:1
Herein [16] 4:6 8:11 10: 23 14:11 18:21 21:4 23:5 26:1 28:13 32:13 37: 17 42:8 45:6 52: 17 54:18 59:9	Hope [2] 37:6 44:13	Impinge [1] 23:23	Indak [4] 54:16-17,23- 24	Invest [1] 50:17
Hereinafter [16] 4:7 8:12 10: 24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37: 18 42:9 45:7 52: 18 54:19 59:10	Hospital [3] 42:18-19 44: 25	Implement [1] 65:13	Indicated [1] 38:3	Invested [1] 22:15
Hereunto [1] 69:15	Hospitals [1] 12:20	Implementing [1] 48:1	Individuals [3] 10:16 23:15 55:18	Investigating [1] 61:14
Hernandez [4] 45:4-5,11-12	Hot [1] 53:17	Importance [2] 62:1 66:4	Industry [1] 56:16	Investigations [1] 57:7
Hesitant [1] 58:11	Hour [1] 65:4	Important [3] 58:16 60:13 67:20	Inefficient [1] 48:8	Investing [5] 63:23 64:12 66:2,4 67:15
High [8] 12:19-20 14: 6 27:20 45:2 46: 19 48:8 55:24	Hours [2] 12:9,13	Impressed [1] 41:11	Inflated [1] 57:25	Involve [1] 40:6
Higher [4] 41:13 49:5 51:13 56:16	House [4] 16:7 26:24- 25 44:7	Improve [2] 28:25 30:16	Inflation [1] 22:11	Involved [2] 40:13 47:24
Highest [1] 13:2	Housing [6] 3:19 45:13, 25 46:7,15 51:8	Improvements [1] 64:8	Information [7] 10:5 14:24 15:5 16:20 18:5, 7 65:17	Irreparable [1] 31:17
Hike [1] 54:10	Hundred [2] 13:14 41:12	Improving [1] 25:11	Infrastructure [1] 56:22	Issue [4] 4:1 26:16 34: 19 58:16
Hikes [1] 56:5	Hundreds [1] 22:21	Inadequate [1] 50:5	Inner [1] 25:7	Issues [2] 22:20 34:23
Hills [2] 11:11 59:15	Hunter [4] 52:15-16,22- 23	Inappropriate [1] 17:20	Inquired [1] 15:24	Items [2] 26:19 35:2
Hire [1] 27:24	Hunting [1] 11:10	Incentives [1] 31:6	Insignificant [1] 55:16	Itself [1] 58:3
History [5] 13:3 15:6 29: 3,6 56:24	Hurdles [1] 62:10	Include [3] 16:4 41:25 51:9	Installation [3] 47:10 48:12- 13	Ivy [3] 30:3,6 31:20
Hit [1] 56:5	Husband [1] 65:2	Included [1] 48:25	Installed [1] 47:3	J
Hits [1] 36:16	I	Includes [2] 61:9 67:17	Insulate [2] 47:11 48:19	Jackson [2] 4:17,25
Hog [1] 48:9	II [8] 9:17 10:13 27:16 33:9,17, 24 35:23 36:18	Including [3] 17:10 58:17 65:17	Insulation [1] 49:24	January [1] 15:4
Hold [2] 38:8 51:20	III [1] 37:1	Income [20] 23:14 24:16 39:13 43:8 45: 22 47:14 48:6 49:4 50:16-17, 24 51:24 52:3,8 53:19 54:1 55: 17 56:8,12	Insurance [1] 35:13	Japanese [1] 30:5
Holding [2] 40:17 58:15	Ill [2] 24:7 53:3	Increase [55] 9:19,21 10: 2,6-7 12:24 13: 10,15-16,21,25 15:9,13,21 16: 13 19:22 21:16- 17,20-22 22:2,5 25:17 26:13,21 27:18 30:15 33: 4,20-22 34:2-3, 7,14-15,25 35:5, 15,25 36:1,16, 19-20 37:3 53: 23 54:4 55:8,12, 17 56:1 58:8 64: 20	Intent [2] 61:5,9	Jeopardy [1] 49:17
Home [15] 14:23 15:19 16:17 17:6,18 46:13 47:8 48: 15 53:2 59:19 64:25 65:2,12, 20,25	Illnesses [1] 53:4	Increased [4] 33:14 50:6 53:25 58:24	Interest [1] 56:20	Jim [1] 18:2
Homeowner [3] 29:25 31:4 32:1	Illuminating [4] 1:5 2:6 47: 22 59:20	Increases	Interested [3] 38:7 50:14 69:13	Job [1] 30:18
Homeowners [1] 55:21	Immediate [2] 49:14 62:6		Interfere [1] 62:13	Joseph [4] 3:11 28:11- 12,18
	Impact [13] 6:9 15:2 18: 13 26:14,22 33: 4 38:7 40:2,4 45:23 48:5 52:7 54:8		Intervene [1] 5:18	Justified [1] 36:13
	Impacted		Intervenors [1] 3:9	K
			Intervenor [1] 5:23	Keenly [1] 5:9
			Inundating	Keep [5] 15:17 16:9 27:25 35:9 39:24
				Keeping [1] 33:12
				Keeps [1] 60:8
				Ken [3] 21:2-3,11
				Kids [1] 65:3
				Kilowatts

<p>[1] 65:4 Kind [2] 13:17,25 Kinds [1] 18:13 Kinship [1] 23:25 Knows [1] 6:14 Korkosz [2] 2:16,18 Kucinich [2] 54:25 55:3</p> <hr/> <p>L</p> <p>Labeled [1] 31:13 Lack [3] 3:21 29:7 56:21 Ladies [1] 28:21 Lady [1] 44:17 Lake [1] 66:15 Lakeside [3] 1:11 3:1 4:13 Lakewood [1] 54:25 Land [1] 32:5 Landlord [1] 31:10 Landscaping [1] 30:24 Large [5] 35:18 60:5 62:4,15 67:12 Large-scale [4] 35:18 62:4,15 67:12 Largely [1] 36:10 Larger [1] 41:12 Largest [3] 32:5,7 67:4 Last [6] 9:2 12:11 22:15 33:11 35:14 41:1 Law [2] 6:1 7:1 Lawful [16] 4:6 8:11 10:23 14:11 18:21 21:4 23:5 26:1 28:13 32:13 37:17 42:8 45:6 52:17 54:18 59:9 Laws [1] 29:22 Lawyers [1] 39:23 Layoff</p>	<p>[1] 22:3 Lead [1] 55:17 Leaders [1] 46:1 Leading [1] 61:13 Learned [1] 18:6 Learning [1] 33:14 Least [2] 41:12 61:11 Leaves [1] 41:22 Led [1] 56:21 Lee [1] 7:18 Left [1] 57:1 Legal [3] 3:12 6:2 7:22 Lenzo [4] 25:24-25 26:6-7 Less [1] 24:11 Lesson [1] 29:3 Letter [4] 19:17 55:3 61:4,9 Letting [1] 11:7 Level [6] 35:5,10 41:7 47:16 51:3,13 Leveraged [1] 48:25 Leveraging [1] 48:22 Levies [1] 13:24 Levy [6] 28:3 34:19,23 35:7,9,19 License [1] 57:5 Lieutenant [1] 7:17 Life [3] 43:20 44:6,25 Lifestyles [1] 31:18 Light [13] 19:12,14 20:10 42:23 43:6,10,12,16 44:20 61:5,12,19 Lighting [1] 48:12 Lights [15] 42:12,19,22 43:7,11,22-23</p>	<p>44:7,11,25 45:1 53:13 Limits [1] 51:16 Line [3] 43:25 66:20 Lines [2] 29:10,12 Liquid [1] 43:4 Listen [2] 5:2 28:7 Listening [3] 20:25 37:5 67:18 Live [9] 16:17 17:5,17 19:6 29:21 43:5,15,24 65:1 Living [3] 23:23 53:23 56:6 Liz [3] 45:4-5,11 LLC [1] 1:16 Load [1] 36:6 Lobbyists [1] 20:23 Located [1] 11:6 Look [9] 16:11 19:11 37:8 39:11-12 40:1,15 41:16 67:19 Looked [1] 13:11 Looking [1] 51:16 Lords [1] 31:14 Loretta [3] 52:15-16,22 Lori [2] 69:5,19 Lose [2] 20:3 43:18 Loss [9] 10:9 13:6,13,20 21:23 33:23 35:22-23 36:17 Losses [3] 22:10 28:4 35:11 Lost [4] 12:1,10 43:19 44:4 Low [12] 23:14 39:13 43:15 45:22 47:14 48:6 50:16 51:24 52:3,8 55:17 56:8 Low-class</p>	<p>[1] 43:15 Low-income [12] 39:13 45:18,22 46:1 47:14 48:6 50:12 51:24 52:3,8 55:17 56:8 Lower [8] 9:9 41:8 45:17 49:3 64:25 65:5 67:15 Lowered [1] 58:7 Lundy [1] 17:23</p> <hr/> <p>M</p> <p>Machines [1] 42:14 Mail [1] 1:22 Main [2] 1:17 2:19 Maintain [6] 28:25 30:17 31:4,8,12,15 Maintaining [7] 29:4,8,19 30:9,19,21 31:24 Maintenance [2] 29:8 56:21 Major [3] 26:16 34:19 60:25 Mal [1] 42:16 Man [1] 18:2 Management [1] 56:25 Manager [1] 21:12 Mandate [1] 34:11 Mandated [1] 57:23 Mandates [1] 22:13 Mandating [1] 58:4 Manicured [1] 30:23 Manner [3] 4:22 7:19 48:20 March [1] 35:7 Marcus [1] 32:18 Market [3] 5:24 60:8 63:1 Market-based [1] 63:1 Marketing [1] 61:20</p>	<p>Markus [4] 32:11-12,18,21 Mary [1] 54:13 Materials [1] 47:10 Math [1] 15:16 Matter [4] 1:4,10 2:5 67:21 Matters [1] 44:2 Matthew [1] 17:23 Mayor [5] 4:14,17,24 5:1 7:16 McCall [6] 4:4-5,11-12,16,23 Meals [1] 43:17 Mean [3] 22:6 40:11 43:9 Meaningful [2] 7:6 62:8 Means [3] 26:17 49:16 56:6 Measure [1] 65:19 Measures [5] 46:18 47:1-2,5 48:19 Measuring [1] 40:16 Mechanism [1] 51:20 Medical [3] 35:12 44:2,6 Medication [4] 43:2 44:24 53:9 Medicine [6] 24:18 42:14,17,20,25 43:3 Meet [5] 40:18 49:9 60:15 66:13 67:9 Meeting [3] 38:8 39:3 47:14 Meetings [1] 40:18 Meigs [1] 66:24 Meister [2] 3:10,12 Member [2] 59:21 61:6 Members [1] 11:13</p>
--	---	---	---	---

Mendelsohn [5] 23:3-4,10-11 39:3	Month [1] 15:6	19,25 25:1,4,20 26:19 38:1 41: 25 43:2 45:16 50:6,8,18 51:6 53:12 64:19 65: 7,14	Non-by-passable [1] 62:17	[1] 32:22
Mention [1] 27:10	Monthly [1] 65:3	Needed [6] 9:23 12:22 27:25 47:9 49: 15,22	Nonattainment [1] 66:12	Ohio [67] 1:1,5,12,18 2:5,19,22 3:2 4: 14 5:7 6:18 7:2, 10-11 8:18 9:4- 5 11:7,13 14:16, 22,25 16:21,25 18:6,8 21:13 22: 11 26:7 28:19 32:20 34:5 36:4, 14,24 46:5,8,10 47:20 48:1,4 50: 19 51:11 52:23 55:1 57:1,6,14, 22 59:16,23 60: 3,9,15,19,21 61: 7,17,24 63:22 66:20 67:9 68:2 69:2,6,15,20
Mentioned [3] 25:19 49:24 56:23	Months [5] 15:9 21:14 22:15 36:8,10	Needs [11] 23:16 24:5 25:16 35:18 47: 14 49:9 50:3 51: 13,19 58:12 67: 11	None [1] 67:24	Ohio's [2] 46:13 58:5
Mercury [1] 66:16	Moreland [2] 11:11 59:15	Needy [1] 22:5	Noon [1] 38:9	Ohio-based [1] 67:9
Metering [2] 48:10 66:2	Morton [6] 8:9-10,16,20- 21	Negative [1] 27:7	NOPEC [6] 59:24 60:4 61:4,6 62:8 67: 14	Ohioans [1] 64:22
MICHAEL [1] 25:25	Most [6] 12:11 27:7 48:14 49:8 51:3 65:5	Neglect [1] 30:12	Northeast [8] 7:11 46:5 57: 1,6,13 59:23 61: 7,24	Old [3] 25:6 52:24 66:1
Middle [2] 50:16 51:1	Mother [1] 20:19	Neglects [1] 63:25	Northern [2] 48:1 50:19	One [20] 11:13 12:12 18:11-12 23:23 24:5 28:22 29:6 30:15 32:2 36:3 38:2 39:9 40:23 45:21,25 46:16 58:17 59:21 66: 24
Might [4] 10:4 23:23 24:12,16	Motion [1] 5:17	Neighbor's [2] 30:2,7	Notary [2] 69:5,20	One-third [1] 36:3
Mike [2] 25:24 26:6	Motivation [1] 56:19	Neighborhood [3] 3:18 15:22 43:16	Nothing [7] 19:7,10 43:7, 13,23 44:5 65:13	Open [1] 60:10
Mile [2] 32:2 67:2	Move [1] 7:1	Net [1] 56:11	Notice [3] 3:22 25:15 38:19	Operate [4] 39:22 57:6, 18 64:5
Mill [1] 35:6	Moving [1] 16:5	Network [8] 3:19 45:13, 25 46:7,16 47: 23 51:9 52:10	November [1] 22:22	Operating [5] 26:17 28:3 35:1,7 61:16
Miller [4] 14:9-10,14-15	MRO [2] 6:8,20	Never [2] 20:7 43:11	Noxious [2] 29:22 30:1	Operations [1] 11:4
Milligrams [1] 43:4	Multiple [2] 34:24 57:10	New [8] 7:13 9:13 11: 21 15:10 16:6 27:24 33:19 36: 13	Nuclear [1] 64:17	Opinion [1] 17:1
Million [14] 22:16 29:15, 17 34:1,4 41:10, 13 47:17 51:17 58:8-9,12 63:11, 23	Must [3] 51:5 56:7 61: 1	Newburgh [4] 28:19 29:21 31:23 32:1	Number [8] 2:4 37:25 38: 3,16 39:24 40: 13 50:18 53:4	Opportunities [3] 10:15 33:14 64:18
Millions [6] 24:24 25:2 39:18 42:3 52:1	Name [28] 2:11 3:11 4: 2,9,23 8:14,20 11:1,3 14:14 18: 25 21:9 23:8,10 26:4,6 28:16 32: 16 37:20,22 45: 10-11 52:20,22 54:21,23 59:12, 14	Newly [1] 62:18	Numbers [1] 55:23	Opportunity [5] 10:19 26:12 59:1,4 62:9
Minimum [3] 10:2 33:19 36:24	Named [1] 18:2	Newspaper [1] 17:14	O	Oppose [1] 55:6
Mining [1] 66:18	Namely [1] 29:9	Next [20] 8:8 10:20 14:8 18:19 21:1 25:23 28:3,10 32:10 37:15 42: 5 43:14 45:3 51: 17 52:14 54:12, 15 55:9 59:6 63: 12	O'clock [2] 1:13 68:4	Opt [1] 60:5
Minute [1] 20:12	Nastiest [1] 20:8	Nine [2] 61:24 67:2	Oak [3] 30:3,6 31:20	Opt-out [1] 60:5
Miss [1] 19:1	Nation [2] 60:21 67:5	Nobody [1] 44:22	Oath [2] 4:1	Optional [1] 56:4
Mode [1] 65:10	Nation's [1] 61:13	Non [1] 62:17	Obviously [1] 15:20	Orange
Modify [1] 5:5	National [1] 66:13		Occupied [1] 48:17	
Moment [1] 38:6	Natural [1] 55:13		Occur [1] 18:17	
Money [12] 9:23 11:20, 22 23:20 24:17 28:4 30:20 31:2 49:9 54:2 63:14 64:23	Nearing [1] 34:21		Occurred [1] 58:2	
Moneys [1] 51:24	Necessity [1] 56:4		Offer [7] 1:6 2:8 5:24 36:24 62:25 63: 1 65:23	
Monitor [2] 64:5 65:18	Need [24] 7:14 14:19 22:23 23:19 24:		Offered [1] 41:10	
Monoxide [1] 47:7			Offering [2] 5:7 21:15	
			Office [3] 4:13 17:22 69:15	
			Officer	

<p>[5] 11:5,9,11 12:1 13:8 Order [4] 34:13 36:24 44:11 53:11 Ordinances [1] 31:24 Orevec [5] 28:11-12,18, 21 Organization [2] 23:13 52:4 Organizations [5] 25:8 46:4 47: 24 60:4 67:13 Organizer [2] 37:23 38:14 Original [1] 58:7 Orleans [1] 52:23 Otherwise [2] 65:9 69:13 Ourselves [1] 42:2 Outage [2] 12:8 30:11 Outages [2] 12:16 29:6 Outing [1] 20:24 Outside [3] 32:5 51:2,15 Outweighs [1] 50:19 Oven [1] 53:15 Overall [1] 35:22 Overcome [1] 26:24 Overgrown [1] 30:4 Own [2] 43:12 58:24 Owner [3] 29:20 32:7 48:17 Owner-occupied [1] 48:17 Owners [1] 17:9 Owning [1] 61:16</p>	<p>[1] 32:5 Park [1] 38:11 Parks [1] 32:6 Part [11] 5:14 12:17 16:7 20:4 30:21 31:8,11 40:12 50:4 52:2 58:6 Participate [3] 6:16 7:23 11: 14 Participating [3] 33:25 62:21 63:4 Participation [2] 38:2 40:4 Particular [2] 7:11 14:22 Parties [3] 2:14 9:7 18:3 Partly [1] 66:17 Partners [2] 46:11 51:12 Partnership [5] 9:6,14 10:12 46:3,17 Parts [2] 41:18,25 Party [3] 6:17 64:4 69: 12 Pass [3] 13:24 19:23 54:13 Passable [1] 62:17 Passage [2] 26:24 60:17 Passed [1] 35:6 Past [7] 12:2,17 15:9 33:10 35:7 47: 16 64:24 Pay [13] 15:8 19:12 20:10 30:21 38: 10 40:21 42:22 53:11 54:2,5 62: 24 63:6 64:7 Paying [1] 15:7 Payment [1] 56:4 Payne [1] 45:13 Peak [2] 36:8,10 Pearl [1] 8:17 Pending [1] 5:25 Pennington</p>	<p>[4] 18:19-20 19: 1-2 Pension [1] 24:7 People [27] 17:3,5,11 18:14 19:6 20:6 25:4 29:15 32:2 38:4,11,16,18, 22 39:5,12,14 40:5,18,21,24 42:3,25 43:11 53:22 54:9 56:8 People's [1] 31:17 Pepper [2] 11:7,11 Per [4] 22:2 34:1 58: 9 65:4 Percent [26] 9:9 10:3,6 11:17 15:18-19, 23 16:10,12 17: 15-17 27:20-21 33:19 40:23 41: 22 49:5 51:3 55: 9 60:20 61:12 Percentage [1] 10:2 Percentages [1] 18:11 Period [2] 40:8 61:8 Permitted [1] 57:18 Person [1] 16:9 Person's [1] 15:19 Personal [4] 15:13 27:1, 11 44:2 Persons [1] 50:18 Persuade [1] 62:9 Phase [2] 27:1 62:24 Phase-in [1] 62:24 Phase-out [1] 27:1 Phased [1] 19:20 Philip [3] 10:21-22 11:3 Phillips [2] 69:5,19 Phone [3] 23:18 44:8-9 Picked [1] 24:6 Pickup [1] 66:1 Piece</p>	<p>[2] 19:19 20:1 Pike [2] 11:7,11 PIP [1] 54:6 Pitch [1] 19:22 Place [12] 6:5 11:25 22:19 29:22 38: 9,17 39:5 41:3 49:13 51:20 58: 20 69:10 Placed [1] 54:9 Places [1] 39:6 Plain [2] 12:25 13:5 Plan [16] 1:8 2:10 5: 19 15:11 16:6, 21 39:11 40:7 55:7 62:19,25 63:1,10-11 64:1 Planned [1] 63:21 Plant [1] 64:17 Plants [4] 66:20 67:1-2, 4 Playing [1] 28:25 Plays [1] 60:24 PM [2] 1:13 68:4 Pockets [1] 57:21 Point [6] 14:20 34:21 35:16 38:6 41:1 51:18 Points [1] 37:25 Poison [6] 30:3,5-6 31: 20 Pollution [2] 64:14 66:9 Poor [2] 43:9 51:1 Population [1] 17:2 Porter [2] 3:5 Portfolio [1] 7:6 Position [2] 26:8 56:17 Possibility [1] 61:15 Possible [5] 6:22 7:24 13:</p>	<p>6,20-21 Posted [1] 56:11 Potential [1] 6:8 Potentially [1] 47:7 Poulos [2] 2:21-22 Poverty [4] 40:16 41:22 51:3,16 Power [32] 8:25 12:1,3, 7-8,11,13,16 29: 1,6,9-11,16 30: 22-23 60:8,10 61:5,12,14,19- 21 63:23 64:17 65:6,8 66:20,23 67:1-2 Precedent [1] 67:20 Preceding [1] 16:15 Prepare [1] 25:17 Prepay [1] 11:19 Prepayment [2] 9:11,18 Prescription [2] 55:14,19 Present [2] 9:17 11:8 Presenting [1] 18:5 President [1] 56:13 Pretty [1] 42:24 Previously [3] 3:20 37:10 49:25 Price [42] 2:1,11,20 3: 8,24 4:9,15 8:8, 14,19 10:20 11: 1 14:8 18:18,24 21:1,9 23:2,8 25:23 26:4 28: 10,16,20 32:10, 16 37:11,14,20 42:5 45:3,9 52: 14,20 54:12,15, 21 59:2-3,12,17 67:22 Prices [5] 55:13-15 61: 22 Pricing [1] 6:9 Prided [1] 39:10 Primarily [1] 39:13</p>
<p>F</p>				
<p>Pad [1] 57:20 Page [1] 57:9 Paid [2] 15:10 43:14 Paper [3] 19:5,20 20:2 Parcel</p>				

Priority [4] 12:19 14:6 64:11 65:23	Properties [2] 30:7 31:16	21 34:2 36:23 39:21 51:9,20 57:5,25 58:2,25 60:14,24 62:2,5, 9,14 67:6,11,19	17,19,21-22 22: 23 24:14 26:13 30:20 33:4,20 34:2,6,8 37:2 50:4 51:21 53: 21 54:1,10 55: 10 56:4 57:19 58:8 63:10 67:15	[1] 61:25
Pritchett [3] 42:6-7,11	Property [24] 27:1,11 29: 20 30:2,5,10,13, 17,19,22,25 31: 4,8,12,17-18,21, 25 32:3,7-8 35: 11 45:12	PUCO's [3] 5:18 57:24 58:19	Rates [24] 3:18 6:22 15:17 16:1,4-5, 18 23:22 24:22 30:15 33:13,18 35:15,24-25 36: 11,14 37:9 41:8 45:20 50:11 54: 6 58:22 59:22	Recognizes [1] 9:24
Private [1] 57:2	Proportionate [1] 63:2	Pull [1] 20:23	Rather [2] 21:7 36:20	Recommend [2] 41:15 67:6
Problems [1] 31:18	Proportionately [1] 15:16	Punch [2] 20:16	Ravenna [1] 26:7	Record [18] 4:3 7:17 8: 15 11:2 13:1,19 21:10 23:9 26:5 28:17 32:17 37: 12-14,21 52:21 54:22 59:13
Proceed [4] 4:15 8:19 28: 20 59:17	Proposal [1] 57:15	Purchasing [1] 60:8	Reach [3] 25:3,20 38:25	Recording [1] 20:16
Proceedings [8] 1:13 3:9 6:6, 21 7:24 69:6,8, 10	Proposed [17] 6:7 8:24 14: 21 15:2,9 16:3- 4 17:9 21:15 27: 17 34:8 55:6,10 58:7 61:18 63: 10,23	Purported [1] 56:7	Reaching [1] 5:10	Records [1] 44:6
Process [2] 6:17 24:22	Protect [4] 12:6 18:16 41:14 59:1	Pursuant [2] 1:7 2:8	Read [3] 20:2 55:2 65: 16	Recourse [1] 41:23
Producing [1] 64:16	Protection [3] 17:8,24 66:11	Pursue [1] 26:19	Reading [3] 15:17 16:9 17:14	Recover [2] 20:4 35:11
Production [1] 7:13	Protections [1] 58:20	Pushed [1] 16:24	Reads [1] 55:5	Recovery [1] 20:3
Profit [4] 13:3 56:20 58:1,14	Protested [1] 3:21	Put [7] 17:1 24:17- 18 27:19 56:20 64:10	Really [9] 18:12 24:20 25:4,8 38:6,21- 22 40:12 41:11	Reduce [4] 9:22 50:15 51:7 64:13
Profits [4] 13:1,19 41: 13 56:10	Provide [13] 10:14 41:17 44:1 46:6,23 49: 18 50:8,20 60: 11 61:21 63:18 66:22 67:14	Puts [1] 51:20	Reason [3] 24:15 57:12 58:18	Reduced [1] 69:7
Program [35] 9:11-12,17- 18 11:15,17,19 13:7,10,13,20 21:24 22:25 27: 16 28:9 33:9,17, 24 35:4,23 36:2, 19 37:1 46:9-10, 14,17 47:6,18 48:1,7 49:18 51: 5,11 63:8	Providers [4] 46:16 49:18 50:7 52:10	Putting [2] 49:17 65:5	Reasonable [2] 58:4,13	Reducing [2] 22:9 50:14
Programming [1] 35:10	Provides [2] 60:7 65:16	Q	Rebates [1] 65:24	Reduction [1] 22:6
Programs [34] 10:13 14:1 25:10 27:9 33: 11 35:17 36:22 41:6 45:17,19 46:24 48:3,23 49:2-3,16,24 50: 17 51:4,22 52:3 62:11,14,22 63: 5,12,17,19 64:2, 6,9 65:11,20,23	Providing [4] 17:8 46:1,17, 25	Qualified [1] 69:6	Receives [3] 24:8 46:9 59: 22	Referenced [1] 55:15
Project [1] 52:7	Provisions [2] 57:25 61:11	Quality [2] 66:12-13	Recent [2] 12:12 34:22	Reflecting [1] 50:25
Projects [1] 61:16	Public [23] 1:1 2:2 5: 21 11:9,12,23 12:21 14:2,4 20: 19 21:22 22:19 36:25 38:7 43: 24 56:20 58:16 59:1,23 60:2 64: 20 69:5,20	Quickly [2] 12:23 37:25	Reckless [1] 57:18	Refrigerated [1] 42:17
Promised [2] 51:24-25	Publication [1] 56:13	Quoted [2] 16:1-2	Recognized	Refrigerators [1] 48:9
Promises [1] 51:21	PUCO [28] 5:25 6:5,18, 25 7:7,19 17:21 19:5 20:22 33:	Quoting [1] 62:2		Refuse [2] 31:3,21
Promote [2] 62:4 67:12		R		Regard [1] 21:15
Promoting [1] 7:2		Race [1] 7:12		Regards [1] 47:12
Properly [1] 5:16		Racks [1] 56:9		Region [2] 31:7 66:5
		Radius [1] 67:3		Regional [1] 40:17
		Raise [4] 20:24 40:20 50:11 58:22		Regulations [1] 57:11
		Raises [1] 17:16		Regulatory [1] 7:14
		Raising [1] 24:22		Relate [1] 39:20
		Ramifications [1] 5:10		Related [3] 5:24 47:1 67: 1
		Ranks [1] 60:21		Relates [3] 39:15-16,23
		Rate [42] 5:5,24 8:24 9:22 10:7 12:24 13:11,21 14:5, 22 15:1,9,21 16: 6,16 17:9 21:16-		Relating [1] 63:9
				Relationship [1] 24:12
				Relative

<p>[1] 69:12 Remains [2] 7:20 60:10 Remember [1] 20:19 REMEMBERED [1] 1:10 Remind [1] 58:18 Renew [1] 14:5 Renewable [7] 7:3,14 60:15, 25 61:10 66:5 67:16 Renewed [1] 50:2 Rent [3] 31:11 54:2-3 Rents [1] 20:24 Repair [3] 12:10 48:16, 18 Repairs [2] 48:24 49:22 Reparented [1] 52:25 Reparenting [1] 52:25 Replace [1] 28:4 Replacement [2] 48:8,18 Reports [1] 13:19 Represent [1] 2:22 Representation [2] 14:20 18:10 Representative [2] 5:1 17:22 Represented [1] 5:16 Representing [2] 14:17 32:24 Represents [2] 9:20 11:10 Request [4] 5:5,11 10:6 64:10 Requested [2] 5:12 35:9 Requesting [2] 14:2 49:8 Requests [1] 34:20 Require [1] 64:4 Required [4] 49:22 62:5, 23 63:6 Requirement [1] 62:7 Researched</p>	<p>[1] 14:21 Residential [3] 2:23 60:6 63: 17 Residents [11] 4:20 6:11, 23 7:25 14:17 45:22 46:6,12 47:15 50:23 57: 13 Respectfully [1] 58:18 Respond [1] 14:6 Responded [1] 12:19 Response [3] 5:4 6:18 12: 17 Responsibility [1] 31:12 Responsible [3] 29:20,25 31:3 Rest [1] 66:22 Restock [1] 42:21 Restore [1] 12:13 Restrictions [1] 66:14 Restructuring [1] 27:3 Result [6] 7:24 29:7 30: 9 34:7 56:18 61: 22 Resulting [1] 62:24 Resume [1] 68:1 Retail [3] 6:12,22 61:20 Retain [1] 41:5 Revamped [1] 22:24 Revenue [4] 22:10 27:2 28:5 35:12 Revenues [1] 35:20 Review [4] 5:18 6:17 13: 17 62:6 Revised [3] 1:7 2:9 62:23 Revoke [1] 57:5 Rewarded [1] 57:19 Ride [1] 44:1 Ridge [1] 32:20</p>	<p>Rights [1] 23:13 Rings [1] 25:7 Rising [1] 53:11 River [6] 32:19-20,23 33:1 35:6 66:21 RMR [2] 69:5,19 Road [3] 8:17 26:7 32: 20 Robert [4] 8:9-10,16,20 Roberto [2] 1:11 2:13 Rocky [5] 32:19-20,23, 25 35:6 Role [2] 56:25 60:25 Rollback [1] 27:11 Ronald [3] 14:9-10,14 Roof [1] 48:18 Room [1] 24:2 Rug [1] 44:23 Rules [4] 40:6 62:3,6, 12 Run [2] 27:8 64:2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <p>Sacrifice [1] 66:21 Sad [1] 41:10 Safe [4] 44:12,14 47: 9 48:20 Safeguards [1] 41:3 Safety [3] 47:1,4 49:22 Sagged [1] 29:12 Save [2] 58:3 64:23 Saving [1] 22:16 Savings [8] 9:15 10:9 33: 13 49:2 60:11- 12 61:23 64:3 Saw [1] 41:8 Scale [5] 35:18 60:5 62:4,15 67:12</p>	<p>School [27] 9:4 11:12, 18,23 12:6,10, 14 13:16,24 22: 5,12,20-21 26: 15 27:6 33:1,7 34:18-19,23 35: 2,24 36:9,14,16, 25 37:9 Schools [27] 8:17,23 9:1, 3,5,18 11:5,9, 14 12:21 14:4 21:13,23 22:20, 25 26:10 27:2,7, 13 32:19,23 34: 5 36:4,7,25 37: 3,8 Schools' [1] 36:5 Schottenstein [1] 3:6 Schreiber [1] 55:5 Schrieber [2] 39:2 55:4 Scientists [1] 60:22 Seal [1] 69:15 Searching [1] 57:7 Section [2] 1:7 2:8 Sector [1] 63:17 Security [15] 1:8 2:10 5: 19 19:17 22:7 28:24 39:11,15, 17,21,23 42:1 55:7 62:19 63:1 See [5] 19:4 38:3 40: 1 41:11 51:23 Seeing [1] 67:24 Seek [1] 6:21 Seeking [1] 28:3 Seemingly [1] 55:16 Seize [1] 58:25 Seizures [1] 42:16 Senate [5] 57:22 60:17 61:25 62:20 67: 10 Senior [3] 19:6 44:13,20 Seniors [1] 56:9 Sense</p>	<p>[1] 42:22 Sent [1] 55:3 Separate [1] 14:4 September [4] 1:12 12:12 19:16 69:16 Series [1] 58:15 Serious [1] 50:11 Seriously [2] 50:9 54:8 Serve [1] 57:13 Service [22] 1:6 2:8,18 5:6 6:12,23 11: 21 13:18 14:7 22:4 46:2,16,20 47:22 49:19,21 50:8 62:25 63:7- 8,19,24 Services [11] 8:22 11:5 22:9 45:12 46:6, 23 47:25 50:19, 21,25 66:1 Servicing [2] 46:12 51:15 Session [1] 36:10 Set [4] 2:3 60:17 67: 10 69:15 Setting [2] 21:18 67:21 Settlement [1] 52:2 Several [4] 35:14 47:16 52:1 63:9 Shape [1] 44:15 Share [3] 4:22 14:23 17:3 Shared [1] 8:3 Sheet [1] 59:4 Sheila [3] 18:19-20 19:1 Shirts [3] 19:12,24 38:4 Shocked [1] 18:12 Shoes [1] 53:9 Shot [1] 20:5 Sick [1] 43:1 Side</p>
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<p>[1] 40:19 Sign [3] 59:4 67:23 Sign-up [1] 59:4 Significant [6] 9:10 12:3 34:10 35:11 36:21 38:16 Significantly [1] 66:19 Simplicity [1] 64:20 Simply [2] 35:4,20 Sin [1] 20:24 Single [1] 32:7 Six [4] 17:16 38:10 52:25 55:9 Skeptical [1] 58:11 Skyline [1] 59:15 Slap [1] 58:22 Slash [1] 22:2 Slow [1] 12:16 Slum [1] 31:14 Small [3] 17:2 24:8 60:6 Smaller [1] 63:24 Smart [1] 66:2 Social [1] 19:17 Society [1] 3:13 Solar [1] 61:13 Someone [2] 20:18 23:24 Sometimes [1] 24:4 Somewhere [1] 15:22 Sorry [1] 21:7 Sort [1] 18:8 Sources [4] 7:3 60:10 61:3 64:13 South [2] 1:17 2:18 Speaking [1] 23:24 Spear</p>	<p>[5] 59:7-8,14-15,18 Special [7] 6:2 14:5 16:16,18 35:24 36:11,13 Specialist [1] 64:5 Specific [1] 17:2 Specifically [2] 15:3 47:13 Specified [1] 69:10 Specify [1] 63:13 Spend [3] 63:11,14 64:15 Spending [1] 24:23 Spouse [1] 24:8 Spread [1] 47:19 Square [3] 32:2 43:17 65:2 SS [1] 69:2 Stacked [2] 21:20-21 Staff [4] 6:1 7:22 9:23 32:25 Stand [2] 44:21 Standard [4] 1:6 5:6 60:16 62:25 Standards [6] 7:6,8 66:6,14 67:10,17 Standby [2] 63:6 65:10 Star [1] 48:10 Started [3] 18:4 35:8 65:12 Starting [2] 2:15 51:18 State [35] 4:2,9 5:7 8:14 11:1 16:25 17:22 18:24 21:9 22:11 23:8 26:4,16 27:5,8 28:16 32:16 34:19 37:20 45:9 46:13 48:4 49:1 52:20 54:21 57:10 59:12 60:19 61:1 66:7,22 67:16 69:2,5,20 State's</p>	<p>[1] 27:3 Statement [1] 25:21 States [6] 7:2 29:5,16 62:2,20 64:4 Station [1] 32:1 Statute [1] 61:11 Stay [2] 22:22 42:18 Steadfast [1] 7:21 Stefanie [3] 59:6,8,14 Stenotypy [1] 69:7 Steve [4] 3:1 54:16-17,23 Still [1] 16:14 Stimulate [1] 16:24 Stipend [1] 24:8 Stove [1] 53:14 Strain [1] 35:16 Strapped [1] 55:12 Street [4] 1:17 2:19 21:13 28:19 Strickland [3] 7:17 40:14 41:19 Strickland's [1] 17:21 Strips [2] 65:6,8 Strong [2] 66:6 67:17 Strongly [2] 10:11 55:6 Strongsville [6] 8:17-18,22 9:1,3,18 Structure [1] 5:6 Struggles [1] 51:1 Struggling [3] 26:24 45:22 50:23 Students [3] 26:23 32:24 33:15 Subject [1] 5:20 Subsidiaries [1] 61:21 Substantial</p>	<p>[1] 61:23 Success [1] 62:13 Successes [1] 65:19 Sufficient [1] 25:15 Suggest [3] 51:16 55:23 63:15 Suit [1] 21:8 Suitable [1] 57:12 Suite [1] 1:17 Suits [3] 19:11,24 38:4 Summary [1] 51:8 Summer [1] 36:8 SUMMIT [1] 69:3 Sunday [2] 12:8,12 Superintendent [1] 26:9 Supply [1] 61:5 Support [2] 33:7 59:25 Supportive [1] 26:21 Supports [1] 7:15 Supposed [1] 44:4 Suppressors [1] 12:5 Surcharge [1] 62:24 Surely [1] 22:13 Surge [1] 29:11 Surges [2] 12:4,16 Survive [1] 19:8 Survived [1] 19:8 Survivor [1] 53:3 Sweeping [1] 44:22 Switching [1] 62:11 Sworn [16] 4:7 8:12 10:24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37:18 42:9 45:7 52:18 54:19 59:10</p>	<p>Sympathetic [1] 37:7 System [4] 29:1,4 30:16 49:23 T Table [1] 6:5 Tangible [2] 27:1,11 Tank [1] 53:17 Tax [6] 27:1,6,11 31:5 35:12,20 Taxpayers [1] 34:21 Teachers [5] 9:21 10:10 27:22,24 34:16 Teaching [1] 9:23 Technical [2] 6:3 46:21 Technology [1] 8:22 Ten [6] 9:2 33:11 40:23 51:18 57:9 67:2 Tenants [1] 31:13 Tent [1] 19:23 Terms [4] 6:10,22 24:16,21 Territories [3] 47:20,22 63:19 Territory [4] 46:5,20 47:15 63:24 Testified [17] 4:8 8:13 10:25 14:13 18:23 21:6 23:7 26:3 28:15 32:15 37:6,19 42:10 45:8 52:19 54:20 59:11 Testify [4] 37:6 44:18 59:5 67:23 Testifying [1] 42:12 Testimony [3] 3:25 21:15 67:19 Thankful [1] 65:15 Therefore [2] 31:16 36:11 Third [2] 36:3 64:4</p>
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THOMAS [1] 23:4 Thousand [3] 13:14 15:14 48:24 Thousands [1] 52:8 Three [8] 10:10 16:11 34:16 36:8 43: 17 49:1 55:9 61: 7 Throughout [5] 9:4 46:5 47: 20,25 60:15 Throw [1] 42:21 Thursday [1] 1:12 Tied [1] 57:24 Tim [2] 37:15,22 TIMOTHY [1] 37:16 Today [22] 3:9,14 5:1 8:23 10:19 11:8 20:2 23:25 28: 22 29:2,18 32: 24 37:6 42:12 43:21 44:19 45: 15 52:11 55:4 57:16 58:17 67: 19 Today's [2] 3:25 5:20 Toledo [4] 1:6 2:7 36: 12 47:21 Tom [3] 23:2,10 39:3 Tonight [1] 68:1 Took [5] 11:25 12:9, 12 15:6 29:15 Top [4] 21:20,22 33: 21 64:11 Total [7] 10:1 13:15 34:15 39:11 48: 5 56:14 67:2 Tough [1] 13:23 Towards [1] 37:8 Transaction [1] 61:18 Transcribed [1] 69:7 Transcription [2] 1:15 69:8 Transition [1] 61:2	Transportation [2] 43:24 55:20 Treasurer [1] 32:22 Treat [2] 14:3 22:25 Treated [1] 12:19 Trees [1] 29:13 Trend [1] 55:23 Triple [1] 51:14 Trips [1] 29:14 True [1] 69:8 Try [2] 12:6 25:9 Trying [4] 20:9 22:22 23:15 53:8 Turbine [1] 29:14 Turn [1] 65:8 Turned [1] 66:21 Twinsburg [2] 26:7,9 Two [3] 9:20 33:10 65:3 Type [6] 17:8 27:8 28: 4 41:16,24 44:9 Types [2] 10:16 17:10 U U.S. [1] 29:15 Unclear [1] 64:7 Under [8] 3:25 6:10 15: 8,10 44:23 58:2 61:18 62:22 Underneath [2] 29:9 30:22 Undoubtedly [1] 55:25 Unfair [1] 17:1 Unfortunately [2] 27:5 28:2 Unfunded [2] 22:13 34:11 United [2] 29:5,16 Up [15] 23:17 24:6 27:25 33:18 34: 16 38:1 44:22 54:3 55:13-15	56:9 59:4 67:23 Upgrading [1] 25:11 Urge [3] 17:7,19 50:9 Usage [5] 48:5 49:3 65: 4,18 Users [2] 46:19 65:14 Utilities [9] 1:1 14:3 23: 20 25:11 48:3 53:12 60:2 63: 22 67:9 Utility [11] 2:2 3:17 13: 3 24:14,21 25: 16 55:12,24 57: 2 63:6 64:6 V Valerie [4] 4:4-5,11,23 Valley [1] 11:11 Valuable [1] 59:1 Value [1] 9:17 Valued [1] 49:15 Values [1] 31:17 Venting [1] 47:6 Verify [1] 64:3 Via [1] 59:20 Victim [1] 55:22 Village [2] 32:1,6 Violation [1] 31:23 Violations [1] 57:10 Virtually [1] 65:12 Vocabulary [1] 39:10 Voice [2] 5:16 20:18 Voting [1] 22:20 W Waiver [1] 7:8 Walls [2] 47:11 48:20 Walters [4] 37:15-16,22- 23 Wants	[2] 58:11 67:22 Warming [3] 60:24 64:14 66:8 Warner [2] 3:3 Water [3] 53:17 64:13 66:9 Ways [3] 24:23 25:2 45:21 Weatherization [5] 25:5 45:16 46:13 47:2 65:25 Weed [1] 29:23 Weeds [2] 29:23 30:1 Week [2] 24:4 56:13 Weekday [1] 38:9 Welcome [1] 2:2 Welfare [1] 23:13 WHEREOF [1] 69:14 White [3] 19:11,24 38:4 Whole [1] 44:6 Williams [1] 18:2 Wind [2] 61:13,16 Wiring [2] 47:9 48:17 Wish [1] 54:7 Witness [33] 4:4,6 8:9, 11 10:20,23 14: 8,11 18:19,21 21:2,4 23:5 25: 24 26:1 28:11, 13 32:11,13 37: 15,17 42:6,8 45: 3,6 52:14,17 54: 12,15,18 59:6,9 69:14 Woman [1] 38:3 Woodmere [1] 11:12 Wore [1] 21:8 Works [3] 46:11 53:16- 17 World [1] 44:14 Worried [1] 43:12 Worry	[1] 43:13 Worse [1] 44:15 Worsening [1] 55:24 Worst [1] 29:6 Worthy [2] 37:9 52:6 Written [1] 10:4 Www.bish-associates.com [1] 1:23 Y Year [12] 13:1 15:14 16:13 22:2 34:1 40:8 42:4 52:24 56:17 58:9 61:8 64:24 Year's [1] 10:6 Yearly [1] 13:8 Years [17] 9:2 12:2,15 13:12 16:11,15 19:20 28:3 33: 11 35:14 46:3 47:16 51:18 52: 1 55:9 63:13 Z Zero [1] 58:12 Zore [1] 66:22 Zox [1] 3:6
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Public Utilities Commission of Ohio hearing

Before Gregory Price, attorney examiner

September 25, 2008

**BISH & ASSOCIATES, LLC
520 South Main Street
Suite 2501
Akron, Ohio 44311
33-762-0031**



BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF OHIO

Case No. 08-935-EL-SSO

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 Section 4928.143, Revised)
Code, in the Form of an Electric)
Security Plan.)

BE IT REMEMBERED that upon the hearing
of the above-entitled matter held before
Commissioner Cheryl Roberto at the Cleveland
City Hall Council Chambers, 601 Lakeside
Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, and commencing on
Thursday, the 25th day of September, 2008, at
12:00 o'clock p.m., the following proceedings
were had.

COMPUTERIZED TRANSCRIPTION BY

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1 Steve Beeler, 601 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland,
2 Ohio 44114.

3 MR. WARNER: I'm Greg Warner on
4 behalf of the city.

5 MR. PORTER: Andre Porter. I work
6 at Schottenstein, Zox & Dunn on behalf of the
7 city, City of Cleveland.

8 MR. PRICE: Are there any other
9 interveners today for the proceedings?

10 MR. MEISTER: Yes, sir. Good
11 afternoon, Your Honor. My name is Joseph
12 Meister. I'm an attorney with Cleveland Legal
13 Aid Society.

14 We're here today on behalf of the
15 Citizens Coalition which comprises the
16 following groups: Empowerment Center of
17 Greater Cleveland, Consumers for Fair Utility
18 Rates and Neighborhood Environmental Coalition
19 and the Cleveland Housing Network.

20 We have previously, Your Honor,
21 protested against these hearings and the lack
22 of notice of these hearings. Thank you very
23 much.

24 MR. PRICE: Thank you. All
25 testimony at today's hearing will be under

1 MR. PRICE: Good afternoon.
2 Welcome to the hearing of the Public Utility
3 Commission. We're set for hearing at this
4 time in Case Number 08-935-EL-SSO in the
5 Matter of the Application of Ohio Edison
6 Company, the Cleveland Illuminating Company
7 and the Toledo Edison Company for Authority to
8 Establish a Service Offer Pursuant to Section
9 4928.143, Revised Code, in the Form of an
10 Electric Security Plan.

11 My name is Gregory Price, the
12 attorney examiner assigned to this case. With
13 me is Commissioner Cheryl Roberto. Let's
14 begin by taking appearances of the parties,
15 starting with the company.

16 MR. KORKOSZ: If Your Honor
17 please, on behalf of the applicant, Arthur
18 Korkosz, FirstEnergy Service Company, 76 South
19 Main Street, Akron, Ohio.

20 MR. PRICE: Thank you, counsel.

21 MR. POULOS: Your Honor, Gregory
22 J. Poulos. I represent the Ohio Consumers'
23 Counsel and the residential consumers in this
24 case. Thank you.

25 MR. BEELER: City of Cleveland,

1 oath. After I issue the oath, I'll ask you to
2 state your name and give us your address for
3 the record. Let's go ahead with the first
4 witness Valerie McCall.

5 VALERIE MCCALL
6 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
7 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
8 testified and said as follows:

9 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
10 and address.

11 MS. MCCALL: Sure. It's Valerie
12 J. McCall, Chief of Governmental Affairs, City
13 of Cleveland, 601 Lakeside Avenue, Office of
14 the Mayor, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

15 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

16 MS. MCCALL: Thank you. On behalf
17 of Mayor Frank G. Jackson, Cleveland City
18 Council, I would just like to say for thank
19 you for hearing this hearing here at Cleveland
20 City Hall, but also so that our residents of
21 the City of Cleveland could get here in an
22 accessible manner to share their concerns.

23 My name is Valerie J. McCall and I
24 am the Chief of Governmental Affairs for Mayor
25 Frank Jackson, City of Cleveland and I am here

5

1 today as a representative of the Mayor and
 2 Cleveland City Council not only to listen to
 3 the comments and concerns expressed by
 4 Cleveland's citizens in response to
 5 FirstEnergy's request to modify its rate
 6 structure and apply for a Standard Service
 7 Offering in the State of Ohio, but also to
 8 assure the citizens of Cleveland that the city
 9 and the administration are keenly aware of the
 10 consequences and far reaching ramifications of
 11 the request by FirstEnergy and the effect of
 12 those requested changes will have on all of
 13 us.

14 As part of the effort to make sure
 15 that the City of Cleveland and its citizens
 16 are properly represented and that our voice is
 17 heard in Columbus, the City has filed a motion
 18 to intervene in the PUCO's review of
 19 FirstEnergy's Electric Security Plan
 20 application that is the subject of today's
 21 public hearing.

22 Additionally, the City of
 23 Cleveland is already an intervenor in the
 24 related market rate offer application also
 25 filed by FirstEnergy and pending before PUCO.

6

1 The city staff, the law
 2 department, special legal counsel and our
 3 technical experts are all working diligently
 4 to make sure that Cleveland has an appropriate
 5 place at the table during the PUCO
 6 proceedings.

7 As proposed, FirstEnergy's ESP and
 8 MRO applications have the potential to
 9 drastically impact pricing, as well as the
 10 terms and conditions under which the City of
 11 Cleveland, its residents and businesses
 12 receive retail electric service.

13 We wanted to make sure that the
 14 great citizenry of the City of Cleveland knows
 15 that the City of Cleveland currently is, and
 16 will absolutely continue to, participate fully
 17 as a party in the review and approval process
 18 being deducted by the PUCO of Ohio in response
 19 to this application.

20 During the ESP and MRO
 21 proceedings, the city will work to seek the
 22 best possible retail electric rates and terms
 23 and conditions of service for its residents
 24 and businesses.

25 The PUCO, however, should

7

1 administer the law in a way that will move
 2 Ohio to the forefront of states promoting
 3 renewable energy sources. This is a big
 4 concern for us here in Cleveland. Among the
 5 city's concerns is that the alternative energy
 6 portfolio standards be meaningful.

7 While we understand that the PUCO
 8 may allow a waiver of the standards for "good
 9 cause" it is imperative that the good cause be
 10 carefully defined. Ohio in general and
 11 northeast Ohio in particular have many
 12 competitive advantages in the race to build
 13 new economies based on the production of
 14 renewable energy. We need a regulatory
 15 environment that supports these advantages.

16 The mayor has already gone on
 17 record with Governor Strickland and Lieutenant
 18 Governor Lee Fisher about our concerns in this
 19 manner. We desire to communicate to the PUCO
 20 and our citizens that the city remains
 21 steadfast in its commitment to making sure
 22 city staff and our expert legal counsel
 23 continue to participate fully in these
 24 proceedings, until the best possible result is
 25 realized for Cleveland's residents, businesses

8

1 and the city.

2 We have already had conversations
 3 with FirstEnergy and have shared this as well.
 4 Many will continue to have conversations with
 5 them as well. Thank you for your time and
 6 your consideration of the citizens of the City
 7 of Cleveland.

8 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
 9 witness is Robert Morton.

10 ROBERT MORTON
 11 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
 12 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
 13 testified and said as follows:

14 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
 15 and address for the record.

16 MR. MORTON: Robert Morton,
 17 Strongsville City Schools, 13200 Pearl Road,
 18 Strongsville, Ohio.

19 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

20 MR. MORTON: My name is Robert
 21 Morton. I am the Director of Business
 22 Services and Technology for Strongsville City
 23 Schools and I'm here today to talk about the
 24 proposed rate increases for generation and
 25 distribution of electrical power to

9

1 Strongsville City Schools.
2 Over the last ten years
3 Strongsville City Schools, along with 248
4 other school districts throughout Ohio, and
5 through the Ohio Schools Council have enjoyed
6 a partnership with FirstEnergy that has been
7 beneficial to all parties.

8 The districts have realized a 13.4
9 percent lower cost for electrical energy and
10 FirstEnergy has had the use of significant
11 dollars realized from a prepayment program.
12 The current program is ending December 31,
13 2008. It is our desire to enter into a new
14 partnership to continue with those amounts of
15 savings.

16 With the end of the Energy for
17 Education II program and the present value of
18 prepayment program Strongsville City Schools
19 annual electrical cost will increase by
20 \$134,000; that alone represents two and a half
21 teachers. If you increase the generation and
22 distribution rate, it will further reduce the
23 amount of money needed for teaching staff.

24 The district recognizes the cost
25 of doing business is increasing; it is for

11

1 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
2 and address for the record.

3 MR. DICKINSON: My name is Philip
4 Dickinson. I'm the Director of Operations and
5 Business Services for Orange City Schools.
6 We're located at 32000 Chagrin Boulevard,
7 Pepper Pike, Ohio. Thank you for letting us
8 present today.

9 Orange City Schools is a public
10 district. It represents the cities of Hunting
11 Valley, Moreland Hills, Orange, Pepper Pike
12 and Woodmere. We're a public school district.
13 We are one of the 249 members of the Ohio
14 Schools Council that participate in the Energy
15 for Education Program.

16 As Bob said, you know, this
17 program gives us a 13.4 percent discount on
18 our electricity for just the school buildings.
19 The program was designed so we prepay CEI and
20 they will take that money and they would
21 service their equipment and build new things.
22 They have the money in advance and, of course,
23 we will get the discount on the public school
24 buildings.

25 I'm not sure if that took place

10

1 everyone. We do not know what the total
2 percentage increase will be, but at minimum it
3 will be 13.4 percent.

4 And I might add since I've written
5 this we have received information that the
6 first year's increase request is 5.32 percent,
7 which will now at that rate increase our
8 budget for electrical energy by -- and the
9 loss of savings that we currently have to
10 \$190,000, which is about three teachers.

11 We strongly encourage the
12 continued partnership that exists with the
13 Energy for Education I and II programs so the
14 districts can continue to provide the
15 excellent educational opportunities for the
16 individuals that will be making these types of
17 decisions in the future.

18 Thank you for allowing me to speak
19 today. I appreciate the opportunity.

20 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
21 Philip Dickinson.

22 PHILIP DICKINSON
23 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
24 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
25 testified and said as follows:

12

1 because CEI has lost power to Orange and our
2 campus many times over the past few years.
3 They have also given us significant power
4 surges which has caused equipment damage and
5 we have had to buy suppressors and equipment
6 to try to protect the school from the
7 fluctuation of power.

8 We had a power outage on Sunday,
9 December 2nd, 2007. It took 11 hours for the
10 repair and we had to close school and we lost
11 a day of education. Our last power -- most
12 recent one on Sunday, September 14th took CEI
13 12 hours to restore power.

14 And I have been in the school
15 business for 30 years, a little over 30 years
16 now and power outages and surges and slow
17 response were not part of my past experience
18 with the electric company. They always
19 responded and treated us as a high priority,
20 not as high as hospitals but, you know, they
21 thought that the public schools were somebody
22 that they needed to get on and get back on
23 quickly.

24 The rate increase follows an
25 announcement from CEI that was in the Plain

13

1 Dealer that the 2007 year was record profits
2 for FirstEnergy, \$1.31 billion, the highest
3 profit in the 10-year history of the utility.
4 So, you know, coupled with -- and I've got the
5 Plain Dealer article attached to that.

6 So we have a possible loss of our
7 Energy for Education program which will effect
8 Orange about \$100,000. Our yearly budget is
9 about \$800,000 for electricity, so just the
10 discount program would increase our cost
11 \$100,000. And then as I looked over the rate
12 increases over the few years, they about equal
13 the loss of the energy program, so that would
14 be another hundred thousand. So it would be
15 200,000 total budget increase and that would
16 be a huge increase for any school district.

17 So kind of in review, you know,
18 we've had a decrease in customer service,
19 FirstEnergy reports record profits, with
20 possible loss of our energy program for
21 education, possible rate increase, huge cost
22 increases for electricity, the economic times
23 are tough for everyone. It's very hard to
24 pass school levies and this, you know, so this
25 kind of increase could cost decrease in

15

1 Edison and asked them if their rate increases
2 were approved as proposed what impact it would
3 have on my bill, specifically beginning in
4 January of 2009. And I received the following
5 information back from them.

6 They took a 12 month history and
7 they told me what I currently was paying for
8 electricity and what I would pay under the
9 proposed rate increase. In the past 12 months
10 I paid \$1500 for electricity. Under the new
11 plan, which would take effect in 2009, the
12 same consumption would cost me over \$2500,
13 which is an increase in my personal electric
14 bill of over a thousand dollars a year on a
15 current \$1500 bill.

16 Now, do the math. Proportionately
17 I keep reading here about how their rates are
18 going to be four percent, five percent, 5.99
19 percent for the average person's home. Okay.
20 Well, obviously I do not fit into that average
21 category because my rate increase would be
22 somewhere in the neighborhood of 66 to 68
23 percent.

24 And when I inquired further about
25 it, they said that it would even be greater

14

1 educational programs.

2 So I'm requesting that the Public
3 Utilities Commission and FirstEnergy treat the
4 public schools as a separate and distinct
5 group, that they renew our special rate and
6 that they respond and give us high priority on
7 our service calls. Thank you.

8 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
9 Ronald Miller.

10 RONALD MILLER
11 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
12 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
13 testified and said as follows:

14 MR. MILLER: My name is Ronald
15 Miller. My address is 749 Bedford Avenue,
16 Elyria, Ohio.

17 I'm here representing residents
18 and consumers of FirstEnergy and many of them
19 may not even realize that they need
20 representation at this point in time, but I
21 have researched the effects of the proposed
22 rate increases by Ohio Edison on my particular
23 home and I would like to share with you some
24 of the information that I have found.

25 First of all, I contacted Ohio

16

1 than that because the rates that they quoted
2 or that they used when they quoted me the
3 proposed increases for 2009 they did not
4 include these proposed rates that was taking
5 the current rates and moving me from the
6 existing rate plan that I'm on to a new plan
7 which was part of House Bill 221.

8 Okay. So it deeply disturbs me
9 that I keep reading how the average person is
10 going to have four percent, five percent
11 increases for those three years, but I look at
12 my bill and it's going to be 70-plus percent
13 increase in the very first year and then I'm
14 still going to take these additional increases
15 in the preceding years.

16 Now I get a special rate because I
17 live in an all electric home. Okay. And
18 those special rates are going to be
19 eliminated, it's my understanding, based upon
20 the information and feedback that I received
21 from Ohio Edison that they plan to eliminate
22 that.

23 Now our governor has said that he,
24 you know, pushed Bill 221 to stimulate growth
25 and development in the State of Ohio. In my

17

1 opinion it's very unfair to put a burden like
2 that on a specific population, a small group
3 of people disproportionately share of the cost
4 of those increases is going to be assessed on
5 people like myself who live in an all electric
6 home.

7 I would urge you to consider
8 providing some type of protection against that
9 proposed rate increases for owners of those
10 types of homes, including myself. Many of
11 these people are not aware of the effects that
12 these increases are going to have on them
13 because, again, if they go by what they're
14 reading in the newspaper they think maybe
15 they're going to get four or five percent or
16 six percent raises or increases and in reality
17 it's going to be 70-plus percent if you live
18 in a home like I do.

19 So I would urge you to -- I think
20 it's inappropriate to do this. I've contacted
21 the PUCO, I've contacted Governor Strickland's
22 office, I've contacted my state representative
23 Matthew Lundy, I've also contacted the
24 Consumer Protection Agency.

25 I believe that gentleman over

19

1 MS. PENNINGTON: Miss Sheila
2 Pennington. And a good afternoon. Thank you
3 for my electric bill. Okay.

4 I see that you had an ad in the
5 paper and I'm here to ask that the PUCO do the
6 people, senior citizens that happen to live in
7 the ghetto do nothing for FirstEnergy.

8 Let them survive like we survived,
9 on what they have done and what they're doing
10 now, which is nothing. From the CEOs to CFOs
11 you look good in your black suits and white
12 shirts but that does not help us pay the light
13 bill.

14 I have in my hand my light bill
15 \$1,435. They want that on the 29th of
16 September. I have in this hand my award
17 letter Social Security. It wouldn't cover
18 this bill if I borrowed \$500.

19 Now, to this beautiful piece of
20 paper here to be phased in over five years.
21 What and how much would that help us? It's
22 going to increase us. They want us to pitch a
23 tent with a candle and they pass by in their
24 black suits and white shirts, how do you do.
25 How do you do?

18

1 there said that he was from that agency. And
2 I spoke with a man named Jim Williams down
3 there. And in every case all the parties that
4 I spoke to when I first started talking to
5 them and presenting information about what I
6 had learned from Ohio Edison and, again, I'm
7 giving you information that came direct from
8 Ohio Edison, they sort of all blew it off.

9 And then when I actually gave them
10 dollars and cent representation of the
11 increases and the percentages, every one of
12 them was shocked. No one really believed that
13 those kinds of increases would impact on
14 people.

15 And so I would ask you to please
16 protect us and do not allow these increases to
17 occur. I thank you for your time.

18 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Now our
19 next witness is Sheila Pennington.

20 SHEILA PENNINGTON
21 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
22 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
23 testified and said as follows:

24 MR. PRICE: Please state your
25 name.

20

1 I have another little piece of
2 paper here that you all let me read today.
3 Allows for the recovery of costs. If you lose
4 part of your health, you cannot recover that.
5 It's over, it's gone, it's shot.

6 You call these people. They have
7 beautiful girls I guess. I've never seen any
8 of them, but they have the nastiest attitudes
9 when you're trying to explain and ask what can
10 I do with a \$1,000 light bill? Pay your bill.
11 I almost said to her I'm going to let you know
12 in a minute that I am from the ghetto because
13 I can talk to you like you talk to me. I
14 don't bother to call them.

15 When they call me, I call them
16 back. I get a recording punch this, punch
17 that. That's not what I want. I want a
18 voice. I want someone who can deal with the
19 public. Remember if you got a mother how
20 would you want somebody to talk to her. The
21 same you give, the same you get.

22 But if the PUCO allows these
23 lobbyists to pull FirstEnergy's coattail with
24 a golf outing to raise our rents, it's a sin
25 and I thank you for listening to me.

21

1 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
 2 witness is Ken Clickenger.
 3 KEN CLICKENGER
 4 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
 5 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
 6 testified and said as follows:
 7 MR. CLICKENGER: Rather sorry I
 8 wore a suit.
 9 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
 10 and address for the record.
 11 MR. CLICKENGER: Ken Clickenger.
 12 I'm the Business Manager of Euclid City
 13 Schools, 651 East 222nd Street, Euclid, Ohio.
 14 Some months ago we came here
 15 offering testimony with regard to the proposed
 16 distribution rate increase and were told that
 17 our fears about a generation rate increase
 18 shouldn't be expressed at that setting. Now
 19 we're here again with a generation rate
 20 increase that will be stacked on top of the
 21 distribution rate increase and then stacked on
 22 top of a 13.4 rate increase your public
 23 schools will feel because of the loss of the
 24 Energy for Education program evidently being
 25 dropped by FirstEnergy.

22

1 Now, in Euclid we're bracing for a
 2 \$280,000 per year increase which will slash
 3 into our budget causing us to layoff
 4 employees, employees who service our very
 5 needy school children. This increase alone
 6 could mean the reduction of more than 11
 7 security guards.
 8 Now, we are already downsizing.
 9 We're already reducing services to children.
 10 We're already faced with revenue losses from
 11 the State of Ohio and inflation because of
 12 diesel fuel costs for our school buses and
 13 unfunded mandates that will surely drag us
 14 down. We have done what we can to conserve
 15 energy, in the last 18 months have invested
 16 \$1.5 million in energy saving equipment and
 17 controls.
 18 Please consider that the only
 19 place that the public has to say no is in the
 20 voting booth for schools and school issues.
 21 There will be hundreds of school districts on
 22 the ballot in November trying to stay afloat.
 23 These rate increases need to come to us more
 24 gradually through a revamped Energy for
 25 Education program that treat schools

23

1 differently and fairly. Thank you.
 2 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Tom
 3 Mendelsohn.
 4 THOMAS MENDELSON
 5 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
 6 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
 7 testified and said as follows:
 8 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
 9 and address for the record.
 10 MR. MENDELSON: My name is Tom
 11 Mendelsohn. I'm Executive Director of the
 12 Empowerment Center of Greater Cleveland,
 13 formerly the Welfare Rights Organization.
 14 We work with low income
 15 individuals and families trying to assist them
 16 with basic needs as they arise. Every day
 17 somebody comes to our door or calls us up on
 18 the phone and says something happened in my
 19 family and I need some help. I don't have
 20 enough money for food. I got my utilities
 21 disconnected. It could be anything like that.
 22 An example of how increasing rates
 23 might impinge upon daily living of one of
 24 these families, and I'm speaking for someone
 25 who couldn't be here today. She is a kinship

24

1 care giver, a grandparent like maybe some of
 2 us in the room are.
 3 I know I'm a grandparent and I
 4 know that my day or my week sometimes gets
 5 changed because one of my grandkids needs to
 6 be picked up, but anyway this grandparent
 7 happens to be on a pension. She has an ill
 8 spouse. She receives a small stipend through
 9 the county to cover her grandchildren.
 10 And by the way, it's my
 11 understanding that that's less if there is a
 12 familial relationship than somebody that might
 13 get if they were in foster care. So
 14 increasing a rate for a utility for whatever
 15 the reason has a domino effect on what a
 16 family's basic income might be in terms of
 17 where do I put the money? Do I put it to
 18 medicine for my grandchildren? Do I put it to
 19 the food that I need to have for the family?
 20 So I would really caution a
 21 utility company like FirstEnergy in terms of
 22 their process of raising the rates. I think
 23 it's great to figure out ways of spending
 24 millions and millions of dollars on efficiency
 25 and we all know that we need to do that. We

25

1 need to conserve energy in many different
2 ways, but how will these millions of dollars
3 actually reach the constituents, the
4 consumers, the people that really need the
5 help for weatherization or for conservation?

6 So many of the homes are so old in
7 the inner rings of the city that it would
8 really help to work with organizations already
9 in existence in the community to try to help
10 bring programs that will help decrease the
11 cost of utilities by improving and upgrading
12 the homes.

13 So I would like to ask what
14 constitutes the right amount of dollars?
15 What's the sufficient amount of notice that a
16 utility company needs to give to the
17 constituents to prepare for an increase
18 because it has that domino effect that I
19 mentioned and how will the funds actually
20 reach the consumers who are in need and that
21 concludes my statement. Thank you for the
22 time to speak.

23 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Next
24 witness is Mike Lenzo.

25 MICHAEL LENZO

27

1 phase-out of tangible personal property tax
2 and that revenue that we use for schools.

3 The state's restructuring of this
4 funding was an attempt to assist businesses in
5 the state. Unfortunately the change in the
6 tax has impacted our school district in a
7 negative fashion. We, more than most schools
8 in the state, use this type of funding to run
9 our programs.

10 I mention this only because the
11 tangible personal property tax rollback
12 benefits business, but it is devastating to
13 how we fund our schools in our community.
14 Please know that our district has benefited
15 from and is very appreciative of the Energy
16 for Education II program.

17 The proposed changes, however,
18 could increase energy costs and adversely
19 affect our district. Early estimates put the
20 figures at 13.4 percent but could be as high
21 as 30 percent. This is the cost of
22 approximately four teachers. With increasing
23 enrollment that our district is experiencing,
24 we will not be able to hire the new teachers
25 needed to keep up with our growth.

26

1 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
2 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
3 testified and said as follows:

4 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
5 and address for the record.

6 MR. LENZO: Yes. My name is Mike
7 Lenzo, 11136 Ravenna Road in Twinsburg, Ohio.

8 My position is Assistant to the
9 Superintendent with the Twinsburg City
10 Schools.

11 I would like to thank the
12 commission for allowing me the opportunity to
13 explain how an electric rate increase will
14 impact the education of our children.

15 As you know, school funding is a
16 major issue in our state and any increases
17 means the basic cost of operating our district
18 will take away dollars from the budget and
19 other items that we need to pursue.

20 Although our community has been
21 very supportive of our district, this increase
22 will have a direct impact on educating
23 students. Our district is currently
24 struggling to overcome the passage of House
25 Bill 66. This house bill deals with the

28

1 We have worked diligently to
2 contain costs but, unfortunately, through the
3 next few years will be seeking operating levy
4 money to replace the losses of this type of
5 revenue.

6 In closing, I would like to thank
7 you very much for the time to listen to my
8 concerns. I would also like to ask that the
9 program be continued. Thank you.

10 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
11 witness is Joseph Orevac.

12 JOSEPH OREVEC
13 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
14 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
15 testified and said as follows:

16 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
17 and address for the record.

18 MR. OREVEC: Joseph Orevac, 4027
19 East 29th Street, Newburgh Heights, Ohio.

20 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

21 MR. OREVEC: Ladies and gentlemen,
22 I come here today because one of the goals at
23 FirstEnergy is saying that they're going to
24 take care of us. Their electric security
25 playing goal is to maintain and improve their

29

1 power distribution system.

2 I come to you today giving you a
3 little history lesson about FirstEnergy and
4 maintaining their system. On August 14, 2003
5 the United States and Canada was effected by
6 one of the worst power outages in history and
7 it was a direct result of the lack of
8 maintenance of FirstEnergy maintaining their
9 power grid, namely, their easement underneath
10 their power lines.

11 When the power surge because of
12 air conditioning use, the lines sagged and
13 then it arched to foliage and trees and caused
14 a forest fire. This caused turbine trips all
15 across the U.S. and took out 40 million people
16 in the United States without power and 10
17 million in Canada.

18 I come to you today to say that
19 this company should be maintaining their
20 property like any responsible property owner
21 and I tell you that where I live in Newburgh
22 Heights they have laws in place about noxious
23 weeds, weed control, forestry and everything
24 else.

25 As a homeowner I'm responsible to

30

1 control noxious weeds from invading my
2 neighbor's property, from having things like
3 poison ivy, poison oak and other things from
4 being overgrown, but this company right now
5 behind my property has Japanese bamboo, poison
6 ivy, poison oak just inundating the area and
7 affecting neighbor's properties.

8 And all that is going to happen as
9 a result of them not maintaining their
10 property as they should be doing as of right
11 now, they're going to have another outage due
12 to their negligence and their neglect of
13 taking care of their property.

14 They're saying that they want to
15 increase our rates. Mainly one of the things
16 said improve the distribution system and
17 maintain their property. I'm saying right now
18 that they are not doing their job as to
19 maintaining their property. And in all
20 aspects they're collecting rate money from us
21 now and part of that is to pay for maintaining
22 their power grid and the property underneath
23 the power grid by having it manicured and
24 landscaping companies that they contract with
25 to take care of their property.

31

1 They are not doing that and why
2 should we give them more money to do something
3 that they refuse to do? I am not responsible
4 as a homeowner to maintain their property.
5 They are getting billions of dollars in tax
6 incentives. They're getting billions of
7 dollars from customers across this region to
8 maintain their property as part of their cost
9 of doing business.

10 And if they were a landlord and
11 they were collecting rent and part of the
12 responsibility was to maintain the property
13 for their tenants, they would be labeled right
14 now slum lords and it's exactly what they are.

15 They do not maintain their
16 properties and, therefore, they're causing
17 irreparable harm to people's property values,
18 lifestyles and causing property problems for
19 children that may come into contact with
20 poison ivy, poison oak and other things that
21 are on their property that they refuse to take
22 care of.

23 They are in violation of Newburgh
24 Heights ordinances about maintaining their
25 property. Every other business: Church, gas

32

1 station, homeowner in the Village of Newburgh
2 Heights, one square mile, 2300 people, takes
3 care of their property, but this company does
4 not take care of their easement which is
5 probably the largest parcel of land outside of
6 the parks that are in the village. They're
7 the single largest owner of property and they
8 do not take care of their property.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
11 witness is Greg Markus.

12 GREG MARKUS
13 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
14 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
15 testified and said as follows:

16 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
17 and address for the record.

18 MR. MARKUS: Greg Marcus. I'm
19 with Rocky River City Schools, 21600 Center
20 Ridge Road, Rocky River, Ohio 44116.

21 Good afternoon. I'm Greg Markus.
22 I'm the Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
23 of the Rocky River City Schools and I'm here
24 today representing the students, citizens,
25 staff and Board of Education of the Rocky

33

1 River City School District.

2 I would like to thank the
3 commission for allowing me to explain how an
4 electric rate increase will impact the
5 education of our children.

6 We are very appreciative of the
7 support FirstEnergy has provided to our school
8 district, as well as the other 248 districts
9 in the Energy for Education II program in the
10 past. We have had two Energy for Education
11 programs over the last ten years which have
12 been very helpful in keeping our electric
13 rates down. These savings have been used for
14 increased learning opportunities for all
15 students.

16 The current Energy for Education
17 II program will expire on December 31, 2008,
18 which will cause our electric rates to go up
19 at a minimum of 13.4 percent. Any new
20 distribution rate increase and any generation
21 increase authorized by the PUCO will be on top
22 of that increase.

23 Collectively the loss of the
24 current Energy for Education II program will
25 cost the 249 participating districts over

35

1 operating our district will take away dollars
2 from other budgeted items and our school
3 district, as well as the others in this
4 program, simply cannot afford to absorb this
5 level of increase.

6 Rocky River just passed a 5.9 mill
7 operating levy this past March that we have
8 not even yet started to collect upon. This
9 levy was requested to enable us to keep our
10 current level of educational programming and
11 to recover from significant losses of property
12 tax revenue and huge increases in medical
13 insurance and fuel costs that we have
14 experienced over these last several years.

15 Any increase in electric rates
16 would further strain our finances to the point
17 where we'll have to cut programs. With
18 large-scale facility needs in our district and
19 the fact that we just had a levy approved, we
20 simply cannot ask for additional tax revenues
21 from our citizenry.

22 Overall, the loss of the Energy
23 for Education II program, the loss of the
24 special school rates and the anticipated
25 increase in rates for distribution and

34

1 \$11.7 million per year. FirstEnergy's
2 distribution rate increase in this PUCO case
3 and any generation increase will be in
4 addition to that \$11.7 million.

5 The Ohio Schools Council is
6 currently analyzing the amount of rate
7 increase that will result from the generation
8 rate proposed by FirstEnergy. That analysis
9 is not yet complete, but we anticipate that it
10 will be significant.

11 This is an unfunded mandate over,
12 which we have no control. We will have to cut
13 elsewhere in our budget in order to fund this
14 increase. For our district we are estimating
15 that the total increase could be the
16 equivalent of up to three teachers or
17 approximately \$180,000.

18 As you know school funding is a
19 major issue in our state. School levy
20 requests are a constant these days and
21 taxpayers are nearing their breaking point as
22 evidenced by recent elections in which more
23 than half of school levy issues have failed
24 with many experiencing multiple failures.

25 Any increase in the basic costs of

36

1 generation may increase the 249 districts'
2 electric bills in this program by
3 approximately one-third.

4 Further, the Ohio Schools
5 Council's analysis has concluded that schools'
6 load characteristics are more favorable than
7 other commercial customers. Schools do not
8 peak during the three summer months like other
9 commercial customers because school is not in
10 session largely during those peak months.
11 Therefore, special rates which currently exist
12 for Toledo Edison and CEI customers are
13 justified and should continue and new special
14 school rates should be established for Ohio
15 Edison.

16 This increase hits school
17 districts especially hard with the loss of the
18 discount in the Energy for Education II
19 program. This is not a gradual increase, but
20 rather a huge increase that cannot be absorbed
21 by us without significant cuts to our
22 programs.

23 We are asking that the PUCO at a
24 minimum order FirstEnergy to offer the Ohio
25 Schools Council and its 249 public school

37

1 districts an Energy for Education III program
2 to achieve gradualism in any rate increases to
3 the schools that may increase from this case.

4 I would like to thank the
5 commission for listening and to all those who
6 have testified or will testify today. We hope
7 that the commission would be sympathetic
8 towards schools and look at us as a distinct
9 group, worthy of school rates, which have been
10 in effect previously. Thank you.

11 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Let's go
12 off the record.

13 (Off record discussion had.)

14 MR. PRICE: Back on the record.

15 Our next witness will be Tim Walters.

16 TIMOTHY WALTERS
17 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
18 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
19 testified and said as follows:

20 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
21 and address for the record.

22 MR. WALTERS: My name is Tim
23 Walters. I'm a community organizer. 4510
24 Broadview here in Cleveland. I would like to
25 address a number of points here very quickly

38

1 that I feel need to be brought up.

2 One is participation. I think as
3 the woman indicated before, we see a number of
4 people in white shirts and suits. I'm just
5 comforted that I don't have either on at the
6 moment, but the point is if you're really
7 interested in the impact of the public you're
8 not going to hold a meeting in downtown
9 Cleveland at noon on a weekday at a place that
10 you're going to pay anywhere from six to \$8
11 to park. You're not going to hear the people
12 that you want to.

13 I do work as a community
14 organizer. I was out in Garfield Heights when
15 they had the hearing out there and they had a
16 significant number of people. They held it in
17 the evening. They held it in a place that
18 people were familiar with and they gave out
19 advance notice to the community that they were
20 going to come down.

21 If you really want to hear what
22 people have to say, if you really want to have
23 to think, you can't depend on them to come to
24 you. They have other commitments during the
25 day. You have to reach out and do it in the

39

1 community.

2 Like I told Chairman Schrieber at
3 that meeting, and I know Tom Mendelsohn as
4 well, if you come out to our community and you
5 want to find a place for people to come to
6 speak, we'll find you places. It's not that
7 hard to do.

8 The other thing is I'm a college
9 graduate and one of the things that I have
10 prided myself on was my vocabulary and as I
11 look at this I hear this total security plan.
12 As I look at it for the people that I work
13 with, and I work primarily with low-income
14 people in the community, I can't find anything
15 that relates to their security.

16 I can find something that relates
17 to the security of the CEOs or the energy
18 companies so they continue to drown millions
19 of dollars.

20 I can find things that relate to
21 the security of the PUCO so they can continue
22 to operate and I can find something that
23 relates to security of many of our lawyers
24 because this seems to keep a number of them in
25 work, which I admire very much with that, but

40

1 what I don't see anybody taking a look at is
2 how is this going to impact?

3 And this goes back to the
4 participation. How is this going to impact
5 our community people and what have we done as
6 we develop these rules to involve them? We
7 talk about we're going to bring in this plan
8 over a five year period. Well, what we
9 haven't done any time is going out in the
10 community and saying what is this going to
11 mean to you?

12 And the part that really concerns
13 me and I'm involved in a number of other
14 things with the Strickland administration
15 where they're taking an active look and
16 they're even asking are we measuring poverty
17 adequately? And they're holding regional
18 meetings or going out to meet with people, but
19 on the other side we're having decisions made
20 that we're going to raise the costs that these
21 people have to pay.

22 And when we talk about five
23 percent, ten percent, one percent to many
24 people in the community with all the other
25 things going on they can't afford it, which

41

1 brings me to my last point is that if this is
2 going to happen, if this is going to take
3 place, then there has to be safeguards built
4 in that are going to enable the average
5 consumer to retain their electricity.

6 Some of this has to be programs
7 that bring their homes to a level that's going
8 to lower those rates and I believe I saw in
9 there that we're talking about FirstEnergy has
10 offered \$25 million. I'm sad to say I'm not
11 really impressed. I could see a figure much
12 larger than that, at least around a hundred
13 million or higher given their profits and what
14 they take out of it to protect our consumers.

15 I also recommend that there has to
16 be a look at the type of assistance and who we
17 provide assistance to out of the communities
18 and this is already happening in other parts
19 of the Strickland administration but it has to
20 happen here as well.

21 Right now we cut off assistance at
22 150 percent at poverty. This leaves many of
23 our consumers without any recourse, without
24 anywhere to go to find any type of assistance.
25 And we need to include those parts in here or

43

1 Somebody in your family has got to be sick,
2 somebody need medication. I need medication.
3 I'm a diabetic and half of my medicine is
4 liquid. I have to take over 30,000 milligrams
5 a day just to live.

6 Without light I don't have
7 nothing. I call for lights. They tell me to
8 go buy a generator. I'm on a fixed income.
9 I'm poor. I mean, what can I do? Tell me.

10 Light company, they don't -- they
11 never get their lights cut off. The people
12 that own the light company, they ain't worried
13 about nothing but they worry about getting
14 paid, where the next buck comes from.

15 I live in a low-class
16 neighborhood. I have to have light. I have
17 to eat. I have to eat three square meals a
18 day but I lose everything I got. What can I
19 do? Tell me what can I do? I lost. They
20 almost cost me my life. That's what I had to
21 come down here today to tell you about.

22 I'm going to die without lights.
23 Without lights I got nothing. They want to
24 cut off public transportation. I live right
25 on the bus line. Without that bus line I

42

1 if we do this the only security that we're
2 addressing or addressing ourselves to is
3 people who are already making millions of
4 dollars a year. Thank you.

5 MR. PRICE: Thank you. Our next
6 witness is Bernard Pritchett.

7 BERNARD PRITCHETT
8 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
9 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
10 testified and said as follows:

11 MR. PRITCHETT: I'll be
12 testifying today about lights. My lights
13 based upon electricity. Without electricity
14 my machines don't work. Without my medicine I
15 will die. I have been in a coma too many
16 times. I have grand mal seizures. A lot of
17 my medicine has got to be refrigerated.

18 I had to go to a hospital, stay in
19 the hospital. My lights was off for four
20 days. My medicine ain't no good. Now I got
21 to restock. I throw my food away, you know.
22 Don't make no sense to pay the lights if you
23 can't have light. Light.

24 I'm pretty sure some of you all
25 got people that have to have medicine.

44

1 can't make where I got to go. Provide a ride
2 to medical. Come to other personal matters I
3 have to take care of myself. So what am I
4 supposed to do? What should I do? I'm lost.

5 In this bag I carry nothing but my
6 life. This is my whole medical records. My
7 doctor came to my house when the lights was
8 out and gave me a phone. He would have bought
9 me a phone so I could have some type of
10 contact. He said he is going to give me
11 lights. Now I have to order lights. So I
12 could say I'll be safe.

13 And I hope all senior citizens
14 also around the world will be safe too. I'm
15 58. I can't -- I'm in worse shape than I have
16 ever been. I made it down here with another
17 lady. I don't know how I made it down here.
18 She brought me. That's what I have to testify
19 to today.

20 Light bills. Senior citizens
21 don't stand a chance. We don't stand a
22 chance. Nobody cares. Just like sweeping up
23 under the rug. That's what I have to say.
24 But my medication I had to destroy and go to
25 the hospital so I had lights. My life is

45

1 based upon lights. Got to have lights. Bills
2 is too high. Thank you.

3 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
4 Liz Hernandez.

5 LIZ HERNANDEZ
6 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
7 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
8 testified and said as follows:

9 MR. PRICE: Please state your
10 name.

11 MS. HERNANDEZ: My name is Liz
12 Hernandez. I'm the Property Services Director
13 of the Cleveland Housing Network, 2999 Payne
14 Avenue, Cleveland 44114.

15 I'm here today to speak to the
16 need for weatherization and energy efficiency
17 programs that will lower the energy costs for
18 low-income customers, as well as others if
19 programs were made available.

20 As rates continue to climb, energy
21 conservation is one of the few ways that
22 struggling low-income residents will be able
23 to impact their deepening and disproportionate
24 energy burden.

25 Cleveland Housing Network is one

47

1 for health and safety related measures to
2 allow for full weatherization measures to be
3 installed.

4 An example of health and safety
5 measures would be the correction of a furnace
6 venting program or a blocked chimney that
7 could potentially cause carbon monoxide to
8 escape into the home, or the correction of
9 faulty wiring that's needed to ensure the safe
10 installation of cellulose materials to
11 insulate the walls and attic.

12 With regards to FirstEnergy
13 funding specifically: Funding is currently
14 not meeting the needs of the low-income
15 residents in the FirstEnergy territory. For
16 the past several years the funding level of
17 \$2.7 million has been allocated to the
18 Community Connections program.

19 This funding amount is spread
20 throughout the FirstEnergy territories of Ohio
21 Edison, Toledo Edison and the Cleveland
22 Electric Illuminating service territories.

23 A network of community development
24 organizations have been involved in delivering
25 services throughout the communities of

46

1 of the leaders in providing low-income energy
2 service provider to the community for over 20
3 years. CHN has worked in partnership with
4 many community development organizations
5 throughout the northeast Ohio territory to
6 provide their residents these services.

7 Cleveland Housing Network
8 administers the Dominion East Ohio energy
9 program, receives funding from the FirstEnergy
10 Community Connections program through Ohio
11 Partners of Affordable Energy, and works with
12 the City of Cleveland in servicing residents
13 with the State of Ohio's Home Weatherization
14 Assistance program.

15 In addition, Cleveland Housing
16 Network is one of the service providers of the
17 Electrical Partnership program providing
18 electrical baseboard audits and measures to
19 high electric users in the FirstEnergy
20 territory. Our experience in service delivery
21 and technical know how is deep.

22 When fully funded, CHN is able to
23 provide comprehensive services, both electric
24 baseload energy efficiency programs, as well
25 as gas conservation, in addition to providing

48

1 northern Ohio, implementing the program as a
2 coordinated effort with other energy
3 efficiency programs funded by utilities and
4 the State of Ohio. It is a crucial component
5 to be able to impact the total energy usage of
6 the low-income client.

7 The FirstEnergy program allows for
8 the replacement of inefficient, high use, what
9 we call energy hog refrigerators with an
10 energy star appliance based on metering the
11 appliance. It also allows for the
12 installation of efficient lighting with the
13 installation of compact fluorescent bulbs in
14 areas where they are used the most in the
15 home.

16 In addition, the repair of faulty,
17 dangerous wiring in owner-occupied homes and
18 roof repair or replacement are allowable
19 measures, done to be able to fully insulate
20 the walls and attics in a safe manner. The
21 funding provided by FirstEnergy allows for
22 leveraging additional dollars.

23 While electric baseload programs
24 may average a thousand dollars with repairs
25 included, the leveraged dollars amount to

49

1 three times that amount from the state and
2 Dominion programs. The energy savings from
3 these programs can lower the usage of a lower
4 income consumer by anywhere from 30 to 45
5 percent. We have had some even higher.

6 FirstEnergy funding in 2007 and
7 2008 was expended well before the end of the
8 funding cycle, with most agencies requesting
9 additional money to meet the growing needs of
10 their communities. However, there were no
11 additional dollars to be had.

12 As well, there is currently no
13 funding in place for 2009 and beyond.
14 Immediate attention to this funding crisis is
15 needed to avoid discontinuing these valued
16 programs. No FirstEnergy funding means
17 putting in jeopardy the ability of energy
18 program providers to provide a comprehensive
19 service.

20 Many clients will be denied any
21 service without FirstEnergy funding, which is
22 needed to make the required safety repairs to
23 the electrical system to allow for the
24 insulation programs, as I mentioned
25 previously.

51

1 struggles of the working poor and the middle
2 class customers who fall outside the 150
3 percent of federal poverty level that most
4 programs use as the guidelines for
5 eligibility. We must work on a program design
6 that will assist with their need to conserve
7 and reduce their expenses.

8 In summary, Cleveland Housing
9 Network is advocating that the PUCO include
10 the funding of the Community Connections
11 program currently administered through Ohio
12 Partners for Affordable Energy at a much
13 higher level. The current funding needs to be
14 at an amount triple its current amount and
15 allow for the servicing of clients outside the
16 poverty limits. I would suggest looking at an
17 amount of \$10 million annually for the next
18 ten years as a starting point.

19 As well, there needs to be a
20 mechanism that PUCO puts in place to hold
21 FirstEnergy to its promises made in rate cases
22 around the funding efficiency programs.

23 It has been frustrating to see
24 that moneys promised the low-income community
25 have not always been delivered as promised.

50

1 As well, no baseload work at all
2 will be done without a renewed funding
3 commitment by FirstEnergy, which needs to be a
4 part of any rate agreement.

5 The funding has been inadequate
6 despite the growing need and the increased
7 capacity of the providers to get to those
8 clients in need to provide this service.

9 I urge the commission to seriously
10 consider that this company cannot continue to
11 raise its rates without a serious commitment
12 to energy conservation for low-income
13 customers and for all customers who are
14 interested in reducing their consumption.

15 The only way to reduce the energy
16 burden of those who are low income or middle
17 income is to invest in conservation programs.
18 The number of persons eligible and in need of
19 services in northern Ohio far outweighs the
20 availability of funding to provide such
21 services.

22 In addition, agencies are also
23 being asked by struggling residents in their
24 community who do not fit the income guidelines
25 for these same services reflecting the

52

1 Several years ago many millions of dollars
2 that were part of a settlement to fund these
3 same low-income programs was diverted to
4 another organization that was building a few
5 all electric homes.

6 While it may have been a worthy
7 project, it did not have the impact of
8 thousands of FirstEnergy low-income customers
9 that could have benefited from this funding
10 through the established network of providers
11 as I've described today.

12 Thank you for your time and
13 attention.

14 MR. PRICE: Next witness is
15 Loretta Hunter.

16 LORETTA HUNTER
17 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
18 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
19 testified and said as follows:

20 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
21 and address for the record.

22 MS. HUNTER: My name is Loretta
23 Hunter, 9813 Orleans Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

24 I am a 59 year old grandmother who
25 is reparenting. I reparented six of my

53

1 grandchildren and I currently have four
2 grandchildren in the home. I'm also a cancer
3 survivor. I'm also very ill.

4 I have a number of illnesses. I
5 have bronchitis. I have a grandson that has
6 bronchial asthma. I also have congestive
7 heart failure.

8 Trying to decide whether to buy my
9 medication or to buy shoes for my
10 grandchildren or how much food to buy for my
11 grandchildren in order to pay the rising cost
12 of the utilities, which we do need.

13 If my lights are cut off, I do not
14 have gas because my stove comes on because of
15 electricity. My oven comes on because of
16 electricity. My furnace works because of
17 electricity and my hot water tank works
18 because of electricity. We are on a fixed
19 income. It is very hard for us.

20 I know that you probably have to
21 make rate increases, but think about the
22 people that don't get the increases. When we
23 get an increase, cost of living increase on
24 our checks or whatever, any other things that
25 we get it gets increased. If we're on a fixed

55

1 Ohio.

2 I'd like to read for you all here
3 a letter that Congressman Kucinich sent to
4 Chairman Schrieber today on this case. It
5 reads as follows: Dear Chairman Schreiber, I
6 strongly oppose FirstEnergy's proposed
7 Electric Security Plan or ESP which would
8 increase consumer electric bills from four to
9 six percent each of the next three years, not
10 counting the proposed distribution rate.

11 My constituents should not be
12 strapped with such a utility increase.
13 Natural gas prices are up; gasoline prices are
14 up; prescription drug prices are up as were
15 referenced earlier. Grocery prices are up.

16 A seemingly insignificant electric
17 bill increase could lead to low-income
18 individuals and families having to choose
19 between groceries, prescription drugs or
20 transportation.

21 Over 15,500 homeowners in Cuyahoga
22 County fell victim to foreclosure in 2007.
23 Numbers for 2008 suggest this trend is only
24 worsening. High utility bills were
25 undoubtedly a contributing factor. Such an

54

1 income where our rate is allocated for our
2 rent because of how much money we pay, our
3 rent goes up. So when we get the little bit
4 increase, then we get more taken away from us.

5 It is very hard for us to pay the
6 rates that we have. Even if we're on PIP or
7 whatever. It is very, very hard. I wish you
8 would think seriously about the impact that
9 would be placed upon the people of the
10 community when you make this rate hike.

11 Thank you very much.

12 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
13 Mary Dodd. You're going to pass?

14 MS. DODD: Yes.

15 MR. PRICE: Our next witness is
16 Steve Indak.

17 STEVE INDAK
18 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
19 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
20 testified and said as follows:

21 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
22 and address for the record.

23 MR. INDAK: My name is Steve
24 Indak. I work for Congressman Dennis J.
25 Kucinich, 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood,

56

1 increase would contribute to additional
2 foreclosures in the future.

3 Now, electricity is basic
4 necessity. Payment is not optional. Rate
5 hikes like this hit those hardest who are
6 already living at the edge of their means. We
7 must not let FirstEnergy dump their purported
8 costs onto low-income and fixed-income people
9 like seniors, while FirstEnergy racks up
10 profits.

11 In 2007 FirstEnergy posted a net
12 income of \$1.31 billion. According to the
13 publication Business Week, the president and
14 CEO of FirstEnergy received a total calculated
15 compensation of \$12,753,326 in 2006, five
16 times higher than the industry average for
17 that same year for that same position.

18 As a result of deregulation,
19 FirstEnergy has been driven by motivation to
20 put profit above the public interest. This
21 culture has led to a lack of maintenance and
22 deterioration of their infrastructure. This
23 was also mentioned earlier.

24 FirstEnergy's long history of
25 management failures and role in the 2003

57

1 blackout have left many in northeast Ohio with
2 no faith in their private electric utility
3 company.

4 In August 2003 I filed a complaint
5 with the PUCO to revoke FirstEnergy's license
6 to operate in northeast Ohio. Federal
7 investigations searching for the causes of the
8 blackout have since confirmed the complicity
9 of FirstEnergy. The ten page complaint cites
10 multiple violations of federal and state
11 regulations, as well as Enron-like accounting
12 as the reason that FirstEnergy is not suitable
13 or capable to serve the residents of northeast
14 Ohio. We have seen examples of such
15 accounting in the ESP proposal in discussion
16 today.

17 FirstEnergy should not be
18 permitted to operate in such a reckless
19 fashion while being rewarded with rate
20 increases that will continue to pad their
21 pockets at the expense of my constituents.

22 Although Ohio Senate Bill 221
23 mandated FirstEnergy to file an ESP, the
24 PUCO's hands are not tied in accepting the
25 inflated provisions of it. In fact, the PUCO

59

1 valuable opportunity to protect the public
2 from another attempt at price gouging.

3 MR. PRICE: Anyone who has not had
4 an opportunity to sign the sign-up sheet here
5 who would like to testify please do so.

6 Our next witness is Stefanie
7 Spear.

8 STEFANIE SPEAR
9 of lawful age, a Witness herein, having been
10 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
11 testified and said as follows:

12 MR. PRICE: Please state your name
13 and address for the record.

14 MS. SPEAR: My name is Stefanie
15 Spear, 5 Skyline Drive in Moreland Hills,
16 Ohio.

17 MR. PRICE: Please proceed.

18 MS. SPEAR: I currently receive my
19 electricity for both my home and business from
20 FirstEnergy via the Illuminating Company. My
21 community is one of the 126 member communities
22 that receives its electricity rates through
23 the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council
24 (NOPEC).

25 I fully support governmental and

58

1 is charged with determining if excess profit
2 occurred under an approved ESP. The PUCO
3 should save itself from making a future
4 determination with mandating a reasonable ESP
5 for Ohio's consumers.

6 As part of this case, FirstEnergy
7 lowered their original proposed distribution
8 rate annual increase of \$340 million by more
9 than half to \$150 million per year. Such a
10 dramatic change should make us all extremely
11 skeptical and hesitant. FirstEnergy now wants
12 \$150 million more, but FirstEnergy needs zero
13 increases to continue to make a reasonable
14 profit.

15 I thank you for holding a series
16 of public hearings on this important issue,
17 including this one here today in Cleveland. I
18 respectfully remind you that the reason for
19 the PUCO's existence is to ensure adequate
20 consumer protections are in place.

21 A decision to allow FirstEnergy to
22 raise their rates would be a slap in the face
23 to consumers that are facing more and more
24 increased costs of their own every day.

25 The PUCO should seize this

60

1 community aggregation and believe that the
2 decisions made by the Public Utilities
3 Commission of Ohio should ensure the
4 continuation of organizations like NOPEC.

5 Large scale opt-out governmental
6 aggregation is good for residential and small
7 business customers because it provides
8 purchasing power, keeps the energy market
9 competitive and helps make certain that Ohio
10 remains open to other power sources that can
11 provide financial savings.

12 In addition to financial savings,
13 I feel that it is extremely important that the
14 PUCO ensure that electricity companies
15 throughout Ohio meet or beat the renewable
16 energy standard and energy efficiency
17 benchmarks set by the passage of Senate Bill
18 221.

19 In the State of Ohio more than 87
20 percent of our energy comes from the burning
21 of coal and Ohio ranks fourth in the nation
22 for carbon dioxide emission which scientists
23 say is contributing to climate change and
24 global warming. I believe that the PUCO plays
25 a major role in renewable energy future for

61

1 our state and must make sure that all of the
2 decisions it makes encourages the transition
3 to cleaner energy sources.

4 Currently NOPEC has a letter of
5 intent with Florida Power and Light to supply
6 electricity to the 126 NOPEC member
7 communities in northeast Ohio over a three
8 year period beginning in 2009.

9 This letter of intent includes an
10 agreement that would exceed renewable energy
11 provisions of the statute by at least 50
12 percent. Florida Power and Light is the
13 nation's leading generator of wind and solar
14 power and they are currently investigating the
15 possibility of developing, constructing,
16 owning and operating wind energy projects in
17 Ohio.

18 Under the proposed transaction,
19 Florida Power and Light will, through its
20 power marketing and competitive retail
21 subsidiaries, provide power that based on
22 current energy prices could result in
23 substantial cost savings for 600,000 electric
24 customers in nine counties in northeast Ohio.

25 Senate Bill 221 recognized the

63

1 market-based offer or electric security plan
2 that is not proportionate to the benefits
3 received by such customers, as a group,
4 receive. Customers participating in
5 governmental aggregation programs will not be
6 required to pay the utility for standby
7 generation service where the aggregation
8 program elects not to take such service."

9 I have several concerns relating
10 to FirstEnergy's proposed rate plan.
11 FirstEnergy's plan to spend \$25 million on
12 energy efficiency programs over the next five
13 years does not specify in what areas they will
14 spend their money in.

15 I suggest that there should be
16 dedicated funding for energy efficiency
17 programs in the residential sector, a
18 commitment to provide energy efficiency
19 programs in each of their service territories
20 and FirstEnergy make a bigger commitment to
21 energy efficiency than what they have planned.
22 Other Ohio utilities like American Electric
23 Power have proposed investing \$178 million
24 over a much smaller service territory.

25 FirstEnergy also neglects to

62

1 importance of governmental aggregation and
2 states that, and I'm quoting, "the PUCO is
3 directed to adopt rules that encourage and
4 promote large-scale governmental aggregation.
5 To this end, the PUCO is required to conduct
6 an immediate review of its existing rules.
7 This requirement gives governmental
8 aggregators such as NOPEC a meaningful
9 opportunity to persuade the PUCO to address
10 some of the hurdles faced by aggregation
11 programs, such as switching fees and to adopt
12 rules that will ease the administrative
13 burdens that can interfere with the success of
14 aggregation programs. The PUCO is also
15 directed to consider the effect on large-scale
16 governmental aggregation of any
17 non-by-passable generation charge that is
18 newly approved in the context of an electric
19 security plan."

20 Senate Bill 221 also states that
21 "Customers participating in governmental
22 aggregation programs established under
23 4928.20, Revised Code, will not be required to
24 pay any surcharge resulting from the phase-in
25 of a standard service offer plan, either a

64

1 explain in their energy efficiency plan who
2 will run these programs and how will they
3 verify that these efficiency savings are real?
4 Other states require a third party
5 administrator specialist to monitor or operate
6 utility energy efficiency programs. It is
7 also unclear who will pay for efficiency
8 improvements and who will benefit from the
9 efficiency programs.

10 I request that FirstEnergy put
11 energy efficiency as a top priority. By
12 cutting energy use and investing in clean
13 energy sources, we can reduce air, water and
14 global warming pollution. Every dollar we
15 spend on energy efficiency is \$3 cheaper than
16 producing that electricity from a coal or
17 nuclear power plant.

18 Opportunities to be more energy
19 efficiency are abundant. There is a huge need
20 to increase public awareness of the simplicity
21 of being more energy efficient. Not only will
22 Ohioans contribute to a healthier environment,
23 but they will save money.

24 Over the past year I have worked
25 to lower my energy consumption in my home,

65

1 which also happens to be where I work. I live
2 in a 2,000 square foot home with my husband
3 and two kids. My current average monthly
4 usage is 394 kilowatts per hour. I was able
5 to lower my energy use by putting most of my
6 electronics on power strips. This way I'm
7 only using what I need when I need it and
8 power strips completely turn off appliances
9 and electronics that would otherwise be on
10 standby mode.

11 The energy efficiency programs
12 I've started in my home have cost me virtually
13 nothing to implement. I think that electric
14 energy users need to be aware of their energy
15 consumption and I'm thankful that my energy
16 bill is easy to read and provides a lot of
17 information, including a bar graph of my
18 usage, so that I can easily monitor my usage
19 and measure my successes in my energy
20 efficiency programs in my home.

21 I encourage FirstEnergy to make
22 educating their customers on energy efficiency
23 programs a priority and offer free energy
24 audits, rebates on energy efficient
25 appliances, discounts on home weatherization,

67

1 related power plants which would make for a
2 total of nine power plants in a ten mile
3 radius for this community, making it the
4 largest concentration of coal plants in the
5 nation.

6 I recommend that the PUCO make its
7 decisions based on what is best for the
8 customer and the environment and be sure that
9 Ohio-based utilities meet or beat the
10 standards set in Senate Bill 221.

11 The PUCO also needs to encourage
12 and promote large-scale governmental
13 aggregation and ensure that organizations like
14 NOPEC can provide its customers with a
15 competitive or lower rate while investing in
16 the renewable energy future for our state that
17 includes strong energy efficiency standards.

18 Thank you for listening to my
19 testimony today. I look forward to the PUCO
20 decision on this important and precedent
21 setting matter.

22 MR. PRICE: Anybody that wants to
23 testify who has not had a chance to sign up?
24 Seeing none.

25 Thank you. We're concluded for

66

1 old appliance pickup and disposal services and
2 investing in smart metering.

3 I can't express enough my feeling
4 of the importance of investing in the
5 renewable energy future for our region and
6 strong energy efficiency standards. The
7 burning of coal in our state is contributing
8 greatly to climate change, global warming and
9 air and water pollution.

10 According to the Environmental
11 Protection Agency, Cuyahoga County's air
12 quality is in nonattainment for failing to
13 meet the national ambient air quality
14 standards. There are many restrictions on the
15 amount of fish we can eat out of Lake Erie due
16 to mercury contamination, which the burning of
17 coal is partly to blame.

18 The mining of coal also
19 significantly damages the environment. The 18
20 coal-fired power plants that line the Ohio
21 River have turned that area into a sacrifice
22 zone to provide the rest of our state with
23 power.

24 Currently one community in Meigs
25 County is fighting five additional coal

68

1 the afternoon. We will resume again tonight
2 at 6:30 in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

3 - - -
4 (Hearing concluded at 1:30 o'clock p.m.)
5 - - -

C E R T I F I C A T E

69


STATE OF OHIO,)
) SS:
SUMMIT COUNTY,)

I, Lori K. Phillips, an RMR and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that the proceedings were by me reduced to Stenotypy, afterwards transcribed upon a computer; and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the proceedings so given as aforesaid.

I do further certify that these proceedings were taken at the time and place in the foregoing caption specified, and were completed without adjournment.

I do further certify that I am not a relative, counsel or attorney of any party, or otherwise interested in the event of this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Akron, Ohio, on this 30th day of September, 2008.



Lori K. Phillips, RMR and
Notary Public in and for the State
of Ohio.

My Commission expires December 2, 2010.

\$	[2] 59:21 61:6	[1] 1:17	6	Ad
\$1,000	12:00	25th	600,000	[1] 19:4
[1] 20:10	[1] 1:13	[1] 1:12	[1] 61:23	Add
\$1,435	13.4	2999	601	[1] 10:4
[1] 19:15	[6] 9:8 10:3 11:17 21:22 27:20	[1] 45:13	[3] 1:11 3:1 4:13	Addition
\$1.31	33:19	29th	651	[6] 34:4 46:15, 25 48:16 50:22 60:12
[2] 13:2 56:12	13200	[2] 19:15 28:19	[1] 21:13	Additional
\$1.5	[1] 8:17	2nd	66	[7] 16:14 35:20 48:22 49:9,11 56:1 66:25
[1] 22:16	14	[1] 12:9	[2] 15:22 26:25	Additionally
\$10	[1] 29:4	3	68	[1] 5:22
[1] 51:17	14400	30	[1] 15:22	Address
\$100,000	[1] 54:25	[4] 12:15 27:21 49:4	6:30	[16] 4:2,10 8:15 11:2 14:15 21:10 23:9 26:5 28:17 32:17 37:21, 25 52:21 54:22 59:13 62:9
[2] 13:8,11	14th	[1] 43:4	[1] 68:2	Addressing
\$11.7	[1] 12:12	30,000	7	[2] 42:2
[1] 34:1	15,500	[1] 69:15	70-plus	Adequate
\$12,753,326	[1] 55:21	30th	[2] 16:12 17:17	[1] 58:19
[1] 56:15	150	[1] 9:12 33:17	749	Adequately
\$134,000	[2] 41:22 51:2	31	[1] 14:15	[1] 40:17
[1] 9:20	18	[2] 9:12 33:17	76	Adjournment
\$150	[2] 22:15 66:19	32000	[1] 2:18	[1] 69:11
[2] 58:9,12	1:30	[1] 11:6	762-0031	Administer
\$1500	[1] 68:4	330	[1] 1:19	[1] 7:1
[2] 15:10,15	2	[2] 1:19,21	762-0300	Administered
\$178		332-0607	[1] 1:21	[1] 51:11
[1] 63:23		[1] 1:20	8	Administers
\$180,000	[1] 69:21	394	800	[1] 46:8
[1] 34:17	2,000	[1] 65:4	[1] 1:20	Administration
\$190,000	[1] 65:2	4	87	[3] 5:9 40:14 41:19
[1] 10:10	20	40	[1] 60:19	Administrative
\$2.7	[1] 46:2	[1] 29:15	9	[1] 62:12
[1] 47:17	200,000	4027	9813	Administrator
\$25	[1] 13:15	[1] 28:18	[1] 52:23	[1] 64:5
[2] 41:10 63:11	2003	44114	A	Admire
\$2500	[3] 29:4 56:25 57:4	[3] 3:2 4:14 45:14	Ability	[1] 39:25
[1] 15:12	2006	44116	[1] 49:17	Adopt
\$280,000	[1] 56:15	[1] 32:20	Able	[2] 62:3,11
[1] 22:2	2007	44311	[6] 27:24 45:22 46:22 48:5,19 65:4	Advance
\$3	[5] 12:9 13:1 49:6 55:22 56:11	[1] 1:18	Above-entitled	[2] 11:22 38:19
\$340	2008	[1] 49:4	[1] 1:10	Advantages
[1] 58:8	[6] 1:12 9:13 33:17 49:7 55:23 69:16	4510	Absolutely	[2] 7:12,15
\$500	2009	[1] 37:23	[1] 6:16	Adversely
[1] 19:18	[5] 15:4,11 16:3 49:13 61:8	4928.143	Absorb	[1] 27:18
\$8	2010	[2] 1:7 2:9	[1] 35:4	Advocating
[1] 38:10	[1] 69:21	4928.20	Absorbed	[1] 51:9
\$800,000	21600	[1] 62:23	[1] 36:20	Affairs
[1] 13:9	[1] 32:19	5	Abundant	[2] 4:12,24
0	221	[1] 59:15	[1] 64:19	Affect
08-935-EL-SSO	[7] 16:7,24 57:22 60:18 61:25 62:20 67:10	5.32	Accepting	[1] 27:19
[2] 1:3 2:4	222nd	[1] 10:6	[1] 57:24	Affecting
1	[1] 21:13	5.9	Accessible	[1] 30:7
10	2300	[1] 35:6	[1] 4:22	Affixed
[1] 29:16	[1] 32:2	5.99	According	[1] 69:15
10-year	248	[1] 15:18	[2] 56:12 66:10	Afford
[1] 13:3	[2] 9:3 33:8	50	Accounting	[2] 35:4 40:25
11	249	[1] 61:11	[2] 57:11,15	Affordable
[2] 12:9 22:6	[4] 11:13 33:25 36:1,25	520	Achieve	
11.7	2501	[1] 1:17	[1] 37:2	
[1] 34:4		58	Action	
11136		[1] 44:15	[1] 69:13	
[1] 26:7		59	Active	
12		[1] 52:24	[1] 40:15	
[3] 12:13 15:6,9				
126				

[2] 46:11 51:12 Afloat [1] 22:22 Aforesaid [1] 69:8 Afternoon [5] 2:1 3:11 19:2 32:21 68:1 Afterwards [1] 69:7 Age [16] 4:6 8:11 10:23 14:11 18:21 21:4 23:5 26:1 28:13 32:13 37:17 42:8 45:6 52:17 54:18 59:9 Agencies [2] 49:8 50:22 Agency [3] 17:24 18:1 66:11 Aggregation [11] 60:1,6 62:1,4,10,14,16,22 63:5,7 67:13 Aggregators [1] 62:8 Ago [2] 21:14 52:1 Agreement [2] 50:4 61:10 Ahead [1] 4:3 Aid [1] 3:13 Ain't [2] 42:20 43:12 Air [5] 29:12 64:13 66:9,11,13 Akron [3] 1:18 2:19 69:15 Allocated [2] 47:17 54:1 Allow [6] 7:8 18:16 47:2 49:23 51:15 58:21 Allowable [1] 48:18 Allowing [3] 10:18 26:12 33:3 Allows [5] 20:3,22 48:7,11,21 Almost [2] 20:11 43:20 Alone [2] 9:20 22:5 Alternative [1] 7:5 Ambient [1] 66:13	American [1] 63:22 Amount [11] 9:23 25:14-15 34:6 47:19 48:25 49:1 51:14,17 66:15 Amounts [1] 9:14 Analysis [2] 34:8 36:5 Analyzing [1] 34:6 Andre [1] 3:5 Announcement [1] 12:25 Annual [2] 9:19 58:8 Annually [1] 51:17 Anticipate [1] 34:9 Anticipated [1] 35:24 Anyway [1] 24:6 Appearances [1] 2:14 Appliance [3] 48:10-11 66:1 Appliances [2] 65:8,25 Applicant [1] 2:17 Application [5] 1:4 2:5 5:20,24 6:19 Applications [1] 6:8 Apply [1] 5:6 Appreciate [1] 10:19 Appreciative [2] 27:15 33:6 Appropriate [1] 6:4 Approval [1] 6:17 Approved [4] 15:2 35:19 58:2 62:18 Arched [1] 29:13 Area [2] 30:6 66:21 Areas [2] 48:14 63:13 Arise [1] 23:16 Arthur [1] 2:17 Article [1] 13:5	Aspects [1] 30:20 Assessed [1] 17:4 Assigned [1] 2:12 Assist [3] 23:15 27:4 51:6 Assistance [5] 41:16-17,21,24 46:14 Assistant [1] 26:8 ASSOCIATES [1] 1:16 Assure [1] 5:8 Asthma [1] 53:6 Attached [1] 13:5 Attempt [2] 27:4 59:2 Attention [2] 49:14 52:13 Attic [1] 47:11 Attics [1] 48:20 Attitudes [1] 20:8 Attorney [3] 2:12 3:12 69:12 Audits [2] 46:18 65:24 August [2] 29:4 57:4 Authority [2] 1:6 2:7 Authorized [1] 33:21 Availability [1] 50:20 Available [1] 45:19 Avenue [7] 1:12 3:1 4:13 14:15 45:14 52:23 54:25 Average [7] 15:19-20 16:9 41:4 48:24 56:16 65:3 Avoid [1] 49:15 Award [1] 19:16 Aware [3] 5:9 17:11 65:14 Awareness [1] 64:20	B Bag [1] 44:5 Ballot [1] 22:22 Bamboo [1] 30:5 Bar [1] 65:17 Baseboard [1] 46:18 Based [9] 7:13 16:19 42:13 45:1 48:10 61:21 63:1 67:7,9 Baseload [3] 46:24 48:23 50:1 Basic [5] 23:16 24:16 26:17 34:25 56:3 Beat [2] 60:15 67:9 Beautiful [2] 19:19 20:7 Bedford [1] 14:15 Beeler [2] 2:25 3:1 Begin [1] 2:14 Beginning [2] 15:3 61:8 Behalf [5] 2:17 3:4,6,14 4:16 Behind [1] 30:5 Benchmarks [1] 60:17 Beneficial [1] 9:7 Benefit [1] 64:8 Benefited [2] 27:14 52:9 Benefits [2] 27:12 63:2 Bernard [2] 42:6-7 Best [3] 6:22 7:24 67:7 Between [1] 55:19 Beyond [1] 49:13 Big [1] 7:3 Bigger [1] 63:20 Bill [21] 15:3,14-15 16:7,12,24 19:3,	1314182010 2625561757: 2260176125 6220651667: 10 Billion [2] 1325612 Billions [2] 3156 Bills [5] 3624420 45155824 BISH [1] 116 Bishassociates@neo.rr.c [1] 122 Bit [1] 543 Black [2] 191124 Blackout [2] 5718 Blame [1] 6617 Blaw [1] 188 Blocked [1] 476 Board [1] 3225 Bob [1] 1116 Booth [1] 2220 Borrowed [1] 1918 Bother [1] 2014 Bought [1] 448 Boulevard [1] 116 Bracing [1] 221 Breaking [1] 3421 Bring [3] 2510407 417 Brings [1] 411 Brockview [1] 3724 Bronchial [1] 536 Bronchitis [1] 535 Brought [2] 3814418 Back [1] 4314 Budget [6] 10813815 22326183413 Budgeted
---	---	---	--	---

<p>[1] 35:2 Build [2] 7:12 11:21 Building [1] 52:4 Buildings [2] 11:18,24 Built [1] 41:3 Bulbs [1] 48:13 Burden [3] 17:1 45:24 50:16 Burdens [1] 62:13 Burning [3] 60:20 66:7,16 Bus [2] 43:25 Buses [1] 22:12 Business [11] 8:21 9:25 11:5 12:15 21:12 27:12 31:9, 25 56:13 59:19 60:7 Businesses [4] 6:11,24 7:25 27:4 Buy [5] 12:5 43:8 53:8-10</p>	<p>[1] 44:5 Case [9] 1:3 2:4,12, 24 18:3 34:2 37:3 55:4 58:6 Cases [1] 51:21 Category [1] 15:21 Caused [3] 12:4 29:13-14 Causes [1] 57:7 Causing [3] 22:3 31:16,18 Caution [1] 24:20 CEI [5] 11:19 12:1, 12,25 36:12 Cellulose [1] 47:10 Cent [1] 18:10 Center [3] 3:16 23:12 32:19 CEO [1] 56:14 CEOs [2] 19:10 39:17 Certain [1] 60:9 Certified [16] 4:7 8:12 10:24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37:18 42:9 45:7 52:18 54:19 59:10 Certify [3] 69:6,9,12 CFOs [1] 19:10 Chagrin [1] 11:6 Chairman [3] 39:2 55:4-5 Chambers [1] 1:11 Chance [3] 44:21-22 67:23 Change [4] 27:5 58:10 60:23 66:8 Changed [1] 24:5 Changes [2] 5:12 27:17 Characteristics [1] 36:6 Charge [1] 62:17 Charged</p>	<p>[1] 58:1 Cheaper [1] 64:15 Checks [1] 53:24 Cheryl [2] 1:11 2:13 Chief [3] 4:12,24 32:22 Children [5] 22:5,9 26:14 31:19 33:5 Chimney [1] 47:6 CHN [2] 46:3,22 Choose [1] 55:18 Church [1] 31:25 Cites [1] 57:9 Cities [1] 11:10 Citizenry [2] 6:14 35:21 Citizens [10] 3:15 5:4,8, 15 7:20 8:6 19:6 32:24 44:13,20 City [38] 1:11 2:25 3:4,7 4:12,17,20-21,25 5:2,8,15, 17,22 6:1,10,14-15,21 7:20,22 8:1,6,17,22 9:1,3, 18 11:5,9 21:12 25:7 26:9 32:19, 23 33:1 46:12 City's [1] 7:5 Class [2] 43:15 51:2 Clean [1] 64:12 Cleaner [1] 61:3 Cleveland [40] 1:5,11-12 2:6,25 3:1,7,12, 17,19 4:13-14, 17,19,21,25 5:2, 8,15,23 6:4,11, 14-15 7:4 8:7 23:12 37:24 38:9 45:13-14,25 46:7,12,15 47:21 51:8 52:23 58:17 68:2 Cleveland's [2] 5:4 7:25 Clickenger [5] 21:2-3,7,11 Client [1] 48:6</p>	<p>Clients [3] 49:20 50:8 51:15 Climate [2] 60:23 66:8 Climb [1] 45:20 Close [1] 12:10 Closing [1] 28:6 Coal [7] 60:21 64:16 66:7,17-18,25 67:4 Coal-fired [1] 66:20 Coalition [2] 3:15,18 Coattail [1] 20:23 Code [3] 1:7 2:9 62:23 Collect [1] 35:8 Collecting [2] 30:20 31:11 Collectively [1] 33:23 College [1] 39:8 Columbus [1] 5:17 Coma [1] 42:15 Comforted [1] 38:5 Commencing [1] 1:12 Comments [1] 5:3 Commercial [2] 36:7,9 Commission [10] 1:1 2:3 14:3 26:12 33:3 37:5,7 50:9 60:3 69:21 Commissioned [1] 69:6 Commissioner [2] 1:11 2:13 Commitment [5] 7:21 50:3,11 63:18,20 Commitments [1] 38:24 Communicate [1] 7:19 Communities [5] 41:17 47:25 49:10 59:21 61:7 Community [25] 25:9 26:20 27:13 37:23 38:</p>	<p>13,19 39:1,4,14 40:5,10,24 46:2, 4,10 47:18,23 50:24 51:10,24 54:10 59:21 60:1 66:24 67:3 Compact [1] 48:13 Companies [3] 30:24 39:18 60:14 Company [19] 1:5-6 2:6-7, 15,18 12:18 24:21 25:16 29:19 30:4 32:3 43:10, 12 50:10 57:3 59:20 Compensation [1] 56:15 Competitive [4] 7:12 60:9 61:20 67:15 Complaint [2] 57:4,9 Complete [1] 34:9 Completed [1] 69:11 Completely [1] 65:8 Complicity [1] 57:8 Component [1] 48:4 Comprehensive [2] 46:23 49:18 Comprises [1] 3:15 Computer [1] 69:7 COMPUTERIZED [1] 1:15 Concentration [1] 67:4 Concern [1] 7:4 Concerns [7] 4:22 5:3 7:5, 18 28:8 40:12 63:9 Concluded [3] 36:5 67:25 68:4 Concludes [1] 25:21 Conditioning [1] 29:12 Conditions [2] 6:10,23 Conduct [1] 62:5 Confirmed [1] 57:8 Congestive [1] 53:6</p>
---	--	--	---	---

Congressman [2] 54:24 55:3	[3] 55:25 60:23 66:7	[16] 31:7 36:7, 9,12 45:18 50:13 51:2 52:8 60:7 61:24 62:21 63:3-4 65:22 67:14	[1] 47:24	Disconnected [1] 23:21
Connections [3] 46:10 47:18 51:10	Control [3] 29:23 30:1 34:12	Cut [6] 34:12 35:17 41:21 43:11,24 53:13	Delivery [1] 46:20	Discontinuing [1] 49:15
Consequences [1] 5:10	Controls [1] 22:17	Cuts [1] 36:21	Denied [1] 49:20	Discount [4] 11:17,23 13:10 36:18
Conservation [5] 25:5 45:21 46:25 50:12,17	Conversations [2] 8:2,4	Cutting [1] 64:12	Dennis [1] 54:24	Discouraging [1] 65:25
Conserve [3] 22:14 25:1 51:6	Coordinated [1] 48:2	Cuyahoga [2] 55:21 66:11	Department [1] 6:2	Discussion [2] 37:13 57:15
Consider [4] 17:7 22:18 50:10 62:15	Correct [1] 69:8	Cycle [1] 49:8	Deregulation [1] 56:18	Disposal [1] 66:1
Consideration [1] 8:6	Correction [2] 47:5,8		Described [1] 52:11	Disproportionate [1] 45:23
Constant [1] 34:20	Cost [18] 9:9,19,24 13:10,21,25 15:12 17:3 25:11 26:17 27:21 31:8 33:25 43:20 53:11,23 61:23 65:12	D	Design [1] 51:5	Disproportionately [1] 17:3
Constituents [4] 25:3,17 55:11 57:21	Costs [10] 20:3 22:12 27:18 28:2 34:25 35:13 40:20 45:17 56:8 58:24	Daily [1] 23:23	Designed [1] 11:19	Distinct [2] 14:4 37:8
Constitutes [1] 25:14	Council [8] 1:11 4:18 5:2 9:5 11:14 34:5 36:25 59:23	Damage [1] 12:4	Desire [2] 7:19 9:13	Distribution [11] 8:25 9:22 21:16,21 29:1 30:16 33:20 34:2 35:25 55:10 58:7
Constructing [1] 61:15	Counsel [5] 2:20,23 6:2 7:22 69:12	Damages [1] 66:19	Despite [1] 50:6	District [17] 9:24 11:10, 12 13:16 26:17, 21,23 27:6,14, 19,23 33:1,8 34:14 35:1,3,18
Consumer [5] 17:24 41:5 49:4 55:8 58:20	Council's [1] 36:5	Dangerous [1] 48:17	Destroy [1] 44:24	Districts [8] 9:4,8 10:14 22:21 33:8,25 36:17 37:1
Consumers [9] 2:23 3:17 14:18 25:4,20 41:14,23 58:5,23	Counsel [5] 2:20,23 6:2 7:22 69:12	Days [2] 34:20 42:20	Deterioration [1] 56:22	Districts' [1] 36:1
Consumers' [1] 2:22	Counties [1] 61:24	Deal [1] 20:18	Determination [1] 58:4	Disturbs [1] 16:8
Consumption [4] 15:12 50:14 64:25 65:15	Counting [1] 55:10	Dealer [2] 13:1,5	Determining [1] 58:1	Diverted [1] 52:3
Contact [2] 31:19 44:10	County [4] 24:9 55:22 66:25 69:3	Deals [1] 26:25	Detroit [1] 54:25	Doctor [1] 44:7
Contacted [5] 14:25 17:20-23	County's [1] 66:11	Dear [1] 55:5	Devastating [1] 27:12	Dodd [2] 54:13-14
Contain [1] 28:2	Coupled [1] 13:4	Decade [4] 9:12 12:9 33:17 69:21	Develop [1] 40:6	Dollar [1] 64:14
Contamination [1] 66:16	Course [1] 11:22	Decide [1] 53:8	Developing [1] 61:15	Dollars [17] 9:11 15:14 18:10 24:24 25:2,14 26:18 31:5, 7 35:1 39:19 42:4 48:22,24-25 49:11 52:1
Context [1] 62:18	Cover [2] 19:17 24:9	Decision [2] 58:21 67:20	Development [3] 16:25 46:4 47:23	Dominion [2] 46:8 49:2
Continuation [1] 60:4	Crisis [1] 49:14	Decisions [5] 10:17 40:19 60:2 61:2 67:7	Die [2] 42:15 43:22	Damino [2] 24:15 25:18
Continue [12] 6:16 7:23 8:4 9:14 10:14 36:13 39:18,21 45:20 50:10 57:20 58:13	Crucial [1] 48:4	Decrease [3] 13:18,25 25:10	Diesel [1] 22:12	Done [6] 19:9 22:14 40:5,9 48:19 50:2
Continued [2] 10:12 28:9	Culture [1] 56:21	Dedicated [1] 63:16	Different [1] 25:1	Door [1] 23:17
Contract [1] 30:24	Current [10] 9:12 15:15 16:5 33:16,24 35:10 51:13-14 61:22 65:3	Deducted [1] 6:18	Differently [1] 23:1	Down [7] 18:2 22:14
Contribute [2] 56:1 64:22	Customer [2] 13:18 67:8	Deep [1] 46:21	Diligently [2] 6:3 28:1	
Contributing	Customers	Deepening [1] 45:23	Dioxide [1] 60:22	
		Deeply [1] 16:8	Direct [3] 18:7 26:22 29:7	
		Defined [1] 7:10	Directed [2] 62:3,15	
		Delivered [1] 51:25	Director	
		Delivering	[4] 8:21 11:4 23:11 45:12	

33:13 38:20 43: 21 44:16-17 Downsizing [1] 22:8 Downtown [1] 38:8 Drag [1] 22:13 Dramatic [1] 58:10 Drastically [1] 6:9 Drive [1] 59:15 Driven [1] 56:19 Dropped [1] 21:25 Drown [1] 39:18 Drug [1] 55:14 Drugs [1] 55:19 Due [2] 30:11 66:15 Duly [17] 4:7 8:12 10: 24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37: 18 42:9 45:7 52: 18 54:19 59:10 69:6 Dump [1] 56:7 Dunn [1] 3:6 During [5] 6:5,20 36:8, 10 38:24	Edison [13] 1:5-6 2:5,7 14:22 15:1 16: 21 18:6,8 36:12, 15 47:21 Educating [2] 26:22 65:22 Education [19] 9:17 10:13 11:15 12:11 13: 7,21 21:24 22: 25 26:14 27:16 32:25 33:5,9-10, 16,24 35:23 36: 18 37:1 Educational [3] 10:15 14:1 35:10 Effect [7] 5:11 13:7 15: 11 24:15 25:18 37:10 62:15 Effected [1] 29:5 Effects [2] 14:21 17:11 Efficiency [23] 24:24 45:16 46:24 48:3 51: 22 60:16 63:12, 16,18,21 64:1,3, 6-7,9,11,15,19 65:11,20,22 66: 6 67:17 Efficient [3] 48:12 64:21 65:24 Effort [2] 5:14 48:2 Either [2] 38:5 62:25 Elections [1] 34:22 Electric [32] 1:5,7 2:10 5:19 6:12,22 12: 18 15:13 16:17 17:5 19:3 26:13 28:24 33:4,12, 18 35:15 36:2 46:19,23 47:22 48:23 52:5 55:7- 8,16 57:2 61:23 62:18 63:1,22 65:13 Electrical [7] 8:25 9:9,19 10:8 46:17-18 49:23 Electricity [18] 11:18 13:9, 22 15:8,10 41:5 42:13 53:15-18 56:3 59:19,22 60:14 61:6 64:16 Electronics [2] 65:6,9	Elects [1] 63:8 Eligibility [1] 51:5 Eligible [1] 50:18 Eliminate [1] 16:21 Eliminated [1] 16:19 Elsewhere [1] 34:13 Elyria [1] 14:16 Emission [1] 60:22 Employees [2] 22:4 Empowerment [2] 3:16 23:12 Enable [2] 35:9 41:4 Encourage [4] 10:11 62:3 65:21 67:11 Encourages [1] 61:2 End [3] 9:16 49:7 62: 5 Ending [1] 9:12 Energy [79] 7:3,5,14 9: 9,16 10:8,13 11: 14 13:7,13,20 21:24 22:15-16, 24 25:1 27:15, 18 33:9-10,16, 24 35:22 36:18 37:1 39:17 45: 16-17,20,24 46: 1,8,11,24 48:2, 5,9-10 49:2,17 50:12,15 51:12 59:23 60:8,16, 20,25 61:3,10, 16,22 63:12,16, 18,21 64:1,6,11- 13,15,18,21,25 65:5,11,14-15, 19,22-24 66:5-6 67:16-17 Enjoyed [1] 9:5 Enrollment [1] 27:23 Enron [1] 57:11 Enron-like [1] 57:11 Ensure [5] 47:9 58:19 60:3,14 67:13 Enter [1] 9:13	Environment [4] 7:15 64:22 66:19 67:8 Environmental [2] 3:18 66:10 Equal [1] 13:12 Equipment [4] 11:21 12:4-5 22:16 Equivalent [1] 34:16 Erie [1] 66:15 Escape [1] 47:8 ESP [7] 6:7,20 55:7 57:15,23 58:2,4 Especially [1] 36:17 Establish [2] 1:6 2:8 Established [3] 36:14 52:10 62:22 Estimates [1] 27:19 Estimating [1] 34:14 Euclid [3] 21:12-13 22:1 Evening [1] 38:17 Event [1] 69:13 Evidenced [1] 34:22 Evidently [1] 21:24 Exactly [1] 31:14 Examiner [1] 2:12 Example [2] 23:22 47:4 Examples [1] 57:14 Exceed [1] 61:10 Excellent [1] 10:15 Excess [1] 58:1 Executive [1] 23:11 Exist [1] 36:11 Existence [2] 25:9 58:19 Existing [2] 16:6 62:6 Exists [1] 10:12 Expend	[1] 49:7 Expense [1] 57:21 Expenses [1] 51:7 Experience [2] 12:17 46:20 Experienced [1] 35:14 Experiencing [2] 27:23 34:24 Expert [1] 7:22 Experts [1] 6:3 Expire [1] 33:17 Expires [1] 69:21 Explain [4] 20:9 26:13 33:3 64:1 Express [1] 66:3 Expressed [2] 5:3 21:18 Extremely [2] 58:10 60:13
E			F	
E-Mail [1] 1:22 Early [1] 27:19 Ease [1] 62:12 Easement [2] 29:9 32:4 Easily [1] 65:18 East [3] 21:13 28:19 46:8 Easy [1] 65:16 Eat [3] 43:17 66:15 Economic [1] 13:22 Economies [1] 7:13 Edge [1] 56:6			Face [1] 58:22 Faced [2] 22:10 62:10 Facility [1] 35:18 Facing [1] 58:23 Fact [2] 35:19 57:25 Factor [1] 55:25 Failed [1] 34:23 Failing [1] 66:12 Failure [1] 53:7 Failures [2] 34:24 56:25 Fair [1] 3:17 Fairly [1] 23:1 Faith [1] 57:2 Fall [1] 51:2 Familial [1] 24:12 Familiar [1] 38:18 Families [3] 23:15,24 55: 18	

Family [3] 23:19 24:19 43:1	57:9,12,17,23 58:6,11-12,21 59:20 63:20,25 64:10 65:21	[1] 67:19	[2] 19:7 20:12	[1] 55:19
Family's [1] 24:16	FirstEnergy's [10] 5:5,19 6:7 20:23 34:1 55:6 56:24 57:5 63: 10-11	Foster [1] 24:13	Girls [1] 20:7	Grocery [1] 55:15
Far [2] 5:10 50:19	Fish [1] 66:15	Four [7] 15:18 16:10 17:15 27:22 42: 19 53:1 55:8	Given [3] 12:3 41:13 69:8	Group [4] 14:5 17:2 37: 9 63:3
Fashion [2] 27:7 57:19	Fisher [1] 7:18	Fourth [1] 60:21	Giver [1] 24:1	Groups [1] 3:16
Faulty [2] 47:9 48:16	Fit [2] 15:20 50:24	Frank [2] 4:17,25	Global [3] 60:24 64:14 66:8	Growing [2] 49:9 50:6
Favorable [1] 36:6	Five [9] 15:18 16:10 17:15 19:20 40: 8,22 56:15 63: 12 66:25	Free [1] 65:23	Goal [1] 28:25	Growth [2] 16:24 27:25
FAX [1] 1:21	Fixed [4] 43:8 53:18, 25 56:8	Frustrating [1] 51:23	Goals [1] 28:22	Guards [1] 22:7
Fears [1] 21:17	Fixed-income [1] 56:8	Fuel [2] 22:12 35:13	Golf [1] 20:24	Guess [1] 20:7
Federal [3] 51:3 57:6,10	Florida [3] 61:5,12,19	Full [1] 47:2	Gouging [1] 59:2	Guidelines [2] 50:24 51:4
Feedback [1] 16:20	Fluctuation [1] 12:7	Fully [5] 6:16 7:23 46: 22 48:19 59:25	Governmental [11] 4:12,24 59: 25 60:5 62:1,4, 7,16,21 63:5 67: 12	H
Fees [1] 62:11	Fluorescent [1] 48:13	Fund [3] 27:13 34:13 52:2	Governor [4] 7:17-18 16: 23 17:21	Half [4] 9:20 34:23 43:3 58:9
Fell [1] 55:22	Foliage [1] 29:13	Funded [2] 46:22 48:3	Gradual [1] 36:19	Hall [2] 1:11 4:20
Few [5] 12:2 13:12 28:3 45:21 52:4	Following [3] 1:13 3:16 15: 4	Funding [24] 26:15 27:4, 8 34:18 46:9 47: 13,16,19 48:21 49:6,8,13-14,16, 21 50:2,5,20 51: 10,13,22 52:9 63:16	Gradualism [1] 37:2	Hand [3] 19:14,16 69: 15
Fighting [1] 66:25	Follows [18] 4:8 8:13 10: 25 12:24 14:13 18:23 21:6 23:7 26:3 28:15 32: 15 37:19 42:10 45:8 52:19 54: 20 55:5 59:11	Future [6] 10:17 56:2 58:3 60:25 66:5 67:16	Gradually [1] 22:24	Hands [1] 57:24
Figure [2] 24:23 41:11	Food [4] 23:20 24:19 42:21 53:10	Funds [1] 25:19	Graduate [1] 39:9	Hard [6] 13:23 36:17 39:7 53:19 54:5, 7
Figures [1] 27:20	Foot [1] 65:2	Furnace [2] 47:5 53:16	Grand [1] 42:16	Hardest [1] 56:5
File [1] 57:23	Foreclosure [1] 55:22	Future [6] 10:17 56:2 58:3 60:25 66:5 67:16	Grandchildren [6] 24:9,18 53:1- 2,10-11	Harm [1] 31:17
Filed [3] 5:17,25 57:4	Foreclosures [1] 56:2	G	Grandkids [1] 24:5	Health [3] 20:4 47:1,4
Finances [1] 35:16	Forefront [1] 7:2	Garfield [1] 38:14	Grandmother [1] 52:24	Healthier [1] 64:22
Financial [3] 32:22 60:11- 12	Foregoing [2] 69:7,10	Gas [4] 31:25 46:25 53:14 55:13	Grandparent [3] 24:1,3,6	Hear [3] 38:11,21 39: 11
Fire [1] 29:14	Forest [1] 29:14	Gasoline [1] 55:13	Grandson [1] 53:5	Heard [1] 5:17
First [21] 4:3,7 8:12 10:6,24 14:12, 25 16:13 18:4, 22 21:5 23:6 26: 2 28:14 32:14 37:18 42:9 45:7 52:18 54:19 59: 10	Forestry [1] 29:23	General [1] 7:10	Graph [1] 65:17	Hearing [9] 1:10 2:2-3 3: 25 4:19 5:21 38: 15 68:4
FirstEnergy [51] 2:18 5:11, 25 8:3 9:6,10 13:2,19 14:3,18 19:7 21:25 24: 21 28:23 29:3,8 33:7 34:8 36:24 41:9 46:9,19 47: 12,15,20 48:7, 21 49:6,16,21 50:3 51:21 52:8 56:7,9,11,14,19	Form [2] 1:7 2:9	Generation [10] 8:24 9:21 21:17,19 33:20 34:3,7 36:1 62: 17 63:7	Great [2] 6:14 24:23	Hearings [3] 3:21-22 58:16
	Formerly [1] 23:13	Generator [2] 43:8 61:13	Greater [3] 3:17 15:25 23:12	Heart [1] 53:7
	Forward	Gentleman [1] 17:25	Greatly [1] 66:8	Heights [6] 28:19 29:22 31:24 32:2 38: 14 68:2
		Gentlemen [1] 28:21	Greg [5] 3:3 32:11-12, 18,21	Held [3] 1:10 38:16-17
		Ghetto	Gregory [2] 2:11,21	Help [7] 19:12,21 23: 19 25:5,8-10
			Grid [3] 29:9 30:22-23	Helpful [1] 33:12
			Groceries	

Helps [1] 60:9	Homes [6] 17:10 25:6, 12 41:7 48:17 52:5	[1] 27:6	[23] 8:24 13:12, 22 14:22 15:1 16:3,11,14 17:4, 9,12,16 18:11, 13,16 22:23 26: 16 35:12 37:2 53:21-22 57:20 58:13	[1] 30:6
Hereby [1] 69:6	Honor [4] 2:16,21 3:11, 20	Imperative [1] 7:9	Increasing [4] 9:25 23:22 24:14 27:22	Invading [1] 30:1
Herein [16] 4:6 8:11 10: 23 14:11 18:21 21:4 23:5 26:1 28:13 32:13 37: 17 42:8 45:6 52: 17 54:18 59:9	Hope [2] 37:6 44:13	Impinge [1] 23:23	Indak [4] 54:16-17,23- 24	Invest [1] 50:17
Hereinafter [16] 4:7 8:12 10: 24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37: 18 42:9 45:7 52: 18 54:19 59:10	Hospital [3] 42:18-19 44: 25	Implement [1] 65:13	Indicated [1] 38:3	Invested [1] 22:15
Hereunto [1] 69:15	Hospitals [1] 12:20	Implementing [1] 48:1	Individuals [3] 10:16 23:15 55:18	Investigating [1] 61:14
Hernandez [4] 45:4-5,11-12	Hot [1] 53:17	Importance [2] 62:1 66:4	Industry [1] 56:16	Investigations [1] 57:7
Hesitant [1] 58:11	Hour [1] 65:4	Important [3] 58:16 60:13 67:20	Inefficient [1] 48:8	Investing [5] 63:23 64:12 66:2,4 67:15
High [8] 12:19-20 14: 6 27:20 45:2 46: 19 48:8 55:24	Hours [2] 12:9,13	Impressed [1] 41:11	Inflation [1] 22:11	Involve [1] 40:6
Higher [4] 41:13 49:5 51:13 56:16	House [4] 16:7 26:24- 25 44:7	Improve [2] 28:25 30:16	Information [7] 10:5 14:24 15:5 16:20 18:5, 7 65:17	Involved [2] 40:13 47:24
Highest [1] 13:2	Housing [6] 3:19 45:13, 25 46:7,15 51:8	Improvements [1] 64:8	Infrastructure [1] 56:22	Irreparable [1] 31:17
Hike [1] 54:10	Huge [5] 13:16,21 35: 12 36:20 64:19	Improving [1] 25:11	Inner [1] 25:7	Issue [4] 4:1 26:16 34: 19 58:16
Hikes [1] 56:5	Hundred [2] 13:14 41:12	Inadequate [1] 50:5	Inquired [1] 15:24	Issues [2] 22:20 34:23
Hills [2] 11:11 59:15	Hundreds [1] 22:21	Inappropriate [1] 17:20	Installation [3] 47:10 48:12- 13	Items [2] 26:19 35:2
Hire [1] 27:24	Hunter [4] 52:15-16,22- 23	Incentives [1] 31:6	Installed [1] 47:3	Itself [1] 58:3
History [5] 13:3 15:6 29: 3,6 56:24	Hurdles [1] 62:10	Include [3] 16:4 41:25 51:9	Insulate [2] 47:11 48:19	Ivy [3] 30:3,6 31:20
Hit [1] 56:5	Husband [1] 65:2	Included [1] 48:25	Insulation [1] 49:24	J
Hits [1] 36:16	I	Includes [2] 61:9 67:17	Insurance [1] 35:13	Jackson [2] 4:17,25
Hog [1] 48:9	II [8] 9:17 10:13 27:16 33:9,17, 24 35:23 36:18	Including [3] 17:10 58:17 65:17	Intent [2] 61:5,9	January [1] 15:4
Hold [2] 38:8 51:20	III [1] 37:1	Income [20] 23:14 24:16 39:13 43:8 45: 22 47:14 48:6 49:4 50:16-17, 24 51:24 52:3,8 53:19 54:1 55: 17 56:8,12	Interest [1] 56:20	Japanese [1] 30:5
Holding [2] 40:17 58:15	Ill [2] 24:7 53:3	Increase [55] 9:19,21 10: 2,6-7 12:24 13: 10,15-16,21,25 15:9,13,21 16: 13 19:22 21:16- 17,20-22 22:2,5 25:17 26:13,21 27:18 30:15 33: 4,20-22 34:2-3, 7,14-15,25 35:5, 15,25 36:1,16, 19-20 37:3 53: 23 54:4 55:8,12, 17 56:1 58:8 64: 20	Interested [3] 38:7 50:14 69:13	Jeopardy [1] 49:17
Home [15] 14:23 15:19 16:17 17:6,18 46:13 47:8 48: 15 53:2 59:19 64:25 65:2,12, 20,25	Illnesses [1] 53:4	Included [1] 48:25	Intervene [1] 5:18	Jim [1] 18:2
Homeowner [3] 29:25 31:4 32:1	Illuminating [4] 1:5 2:6 47: 22 59:20	Includes [2] 61:9 67:17	Interveners [1] 3:9	Job [1] 30:18
Homeowners [1] 55:21	Immediate [2] 49:14 62:6	Including [3] 17:10 58:17 65:17	Intervenor [1] 5:23	Joseph [4] 3:11 28:11- 12,18
	Impact [13] 6:9 15:2 18: 13 26:14,22 33: 4 38:7 40:2,4 45:23 48:5 52:7 54:8	Increase [4] 33:14 50:6 53:25 58:24	Inundating	Justified [1] 36:13
	Impacted	Increases		K
				Keenly [1] 5:9
				Keep [5] 15:17 16:9 27:25 35:9 39:24
				Keeping [1] 33:12
				Keeps [1] 60:8
				Ken [3] 21:2-3,11
				Kids [1] 65:3
				Kilowatts

<p>[1] 65:4 Kind [2] 13:17,25 Kinds [1] 18:13 Kinship [1] 23:25 Knows [1] 6:14 Korkosz [2] 2:16,18 Kucinich [2] 54:25 55:3</p>	<p>[1] 22:3 Lead [1] 55:17 Leaders [1] 46:1 Leading [1] 61:13 Learned [1] 18:6 Learning [1] 33:14 Least [2] 41:12 61:11 Leaves [1] 41:22 Led [1] 56:21 Lee [1] 7:18 Left [1] 57:1 Legal [3] 3:12 6:2 7:22 Lenzo [4] 25:24-25 26:6-7 Less [1] 24:11 Lesson [1] 29:3 Letter [4] 19:17 55:3 61:4,9 Letting [1] 11:7 Level [6] 35:5,10 41:7 47:16 51:3,13 Leveraged [1] 48:25 Leveraging [1] 48:22 Levies [1] 13:24 Levy [6] 28:3 34:19, 23 35:7,9,19 License [1] 57:5 Lieutenant [1] 7:17 Life [3] 43:20 44:6,25 Lifestyles [1] 31:18 Light [13] 19:12,14 20:10 42:23 43:6, 10,12,16 44:20 61:5,12,19 Lighting [1] 48:12 Lights [15] 42:12,19,22 43:7,11,22-23</p>	<p>44:7,11,25 45:1 53:13 Limits [1] 51:16 Line [3] 43:25 66:20 Lines [2] 29:10,12 Liquid [1] 43:4 Listen [2] 5:2 28:7 Listening [3] 20:25 37:5 67:18 Live [9] 16:17 17:5, 17 19:6 29:21 43:5,15,24 65:1 Living [3] 23:23 53:23 56:6 Liz [3] 45:4-5,11 LLC [1] 1:16 Load [1] 36:6 Lobbyists [1] 20:23 Located [1] 11:6 Look [9] 16:11 19:11 37:8 39:11-12 40:1,15 41:16 67:19 Looked [1] 13:11 Looking [1] 51:16 Lords [1] 31:14 Loretta [3] 52:15-16,22 Lori [2] 69:5,19 Lose [2] 20:3 43:18 Loss [9] 10:9 13:6,13, 20 21:23 33:23 35:22-23 36:17 Losses [3] 22:10 28:4 35:11 Lost [4] 12:1,10 43:19 44:4 Low [12] 23:14 39:13 43:15 45:22 47:14 48:6 50:16 51:24 52:3,8 55:17 56:8 Low-class</p>	<p>[1] 43:15 Low-income [12] 39:13 45:18, 22 46:1 47:14 48:6 50:12 51:24 52:3,8 55:17 56:8 Lower [8] 9:9 41:8 45:17 49:3 64:25 65:5 67:15 Lowered [1] 58:7 Lundy [1] 17:23</p>	<p>Markus [4] 32:11-12,18, 21 Mary [1] 54:13 Materials [1] 47:10 Math [1] 15:16 Matter [4] 1:4,10 2:5 67:21 Matters [1] 44:2 Matthew [1] 17:23 Mayor [5] 4:14,17,24 5:1 7:16 McCall [6] 4:4-5,11-12, 16,23 Meals [1] 43:17 Mean [3] 22:6 40:11 43:9 Meaningful [2] 7:6 62:8 Means [3] 26:17 49:16 56:6 Measure [1] 65:19 Measures [5] 46:18 47:1-2, 5 48:19 Measuring [1] 40:16 Mechanism [1] 51:20 Medical [3] 35:12 44:2,6 Medication [4] 43:2 44:24 53:9 Medicine [6] 24:18 42:14, 17,20,25 43:3 Meet [5] 40:18 49:9 60:15 66:13 67:9 Meeting [3] 38:8 39:3 47:14 Meetings [1] 40:18 Meigs [1] 66:24 Meister [2] 3:10,12 Member [2] 59:21 61:6 Members [1] 11:13</p>
<p>L Labeled [1] 31:13 Lack [3] 3:21 29:7 56:21 Ladies [1] 28:21 Lady [1] 44:17 Lake [1] 66:15 Lakeside [3] 1:11 3:1 4:13 Lakewood [1] 54:25 Land [1] 32:5 Landlord [1] 31:10 Landscaping [1] 30:24 Large [5] 35:18 60:5 62:4,15 67:12 Large-scale [4] 35:18 62:4, 15 67:12 Largely [1] 36:10 Larger [1] 41:12 Largest [3] 32:5,7 67:4 Last [6] 9:2 12:11 22:15 33:11 35:14 41:1 Law [2] 6:1 7:1 Lawful [16] 4:6 8:11 10:23 14:11 18:21 21:4 23:5 26:1 28:13 32:13 37:17 42:8 45:6 52:17 54:18 59:9 Laws [1] 29:22 Lawyers [1] 39:23 Layoff</p>			<p>M Machines [1] 42:14 Mail [1] 1:22 Main [2] 1:17 2:19 Maintain [6] 28:25 30:17 31:4,8,12,15 Maintaining [7] 29:4,8,19 30:9,19,21 31:24 Maintenance [2] 29:8 56:21 Major [3] 26:16 34:19 60:25 Mal [1] 42:16 Man [1] 18:2 Management [1] 56:25 Manager [1] 21:12 Mandate [1] 34:11 Mandated [1] 57:23 Mandates [1] 22:13 Mandating [1] 58:4 Manicured [1] 30:23 Manner [3] 4:22 7:19 48:20 March [1] 35:7 Marcus [1] 32:18 Market [3] 5:24 60:8 63:1 Market-based [1] 63:1 Marketing [1] 61:20</p>	

Mendelsohn [5] 23:3-4,10-11 39:3	Month [1] 15:6	19,25 25:1,4,20 26:19 38:1 41: 25 43:2 45:16 50:6,8,18 51:6 53:12 64:19 65: 7,14	Non-by-passable [1] 62:17	[1] 32:22
Mention [1] 27:10	Monthly [1] 65:3	Needed [6] 9:23 12:22 27:25 47:9 49: 15,22	Nonattainment [1] 66:12	Ohio [67] 1:1,5,12,18 2:5,19,22 3:2 4: 14 5:7 6:18 7:2, 10-11 8:18 9:4- 5 11:7,13 14:16, 22,25 16:21,25 18:6,8 21:13 22: 11 26:7 28:19 32:20 34:5 36:4, 14,24 46:5,8,10 47:20 48:1,4 50: 19 51:11 52:23 55:1 57:1,6,14, 22 59:16,23 60: 3,9,15,19,21 61: 7,17,24 63:22 66:20 67:9 68:2 69:2,6,15,20
Mentioned [3] 25:19 49:24 56:23	Months [5] 15:9 21:14 22:15 36:8,10	Needs [11] 23:16 24:5 25:16 35:18 47: 14 49:9 50:3 51: 13,19 58:12 67: 11	None [1] 67:24	Ohio's [2] 46:13 58:5
Mercury [1] 66:16	Moreland [2] 11:11 59:15	Needy [1] 22:5	Noon [1] 38:9	Ohio-based [1] 67:9
Metering [2] 48:10 66:2	Morton [6] 8:9-10,16,20- 21	Negative [1] 27:7	NOPEC [6] 59:24 60:4 61:4,6 62:8 67: 14	Ohioans [1] 64:22
MICHAEL [1] 25:25	Most [6] 12:11 27:7 48:14 49:8 51:3 65:5	Neglect [1] 30:12	Northeast [8] 7:11 46:5 57: 1,6,13 59:23 61: 7,24	Old [3] 25:6 52:24 66:1
Middle [2] 50:16 51:1	Mother [1] 20:19	Neglects [1] 63:25	Northern [2] 48:1 50:19	One [20] 11:13 12:12 18:11-12 23:23 24:5 28:22 29:6 30:15 32:2 36:3 38:2 39:9 40:23 45:21,25 46:16 58:17 59:21 66: 24
Might [4] 10:4 23:23 24:12,16	Motion [1] 5:17	Negligence [1] 30:12	Notary [2] 69:5,20	One-third [1] 36:3
Mike [2] 25:24 26:6	Motivation [1] 56:19	Neighbor's [2] 30:2,7	Nothing [7] 19:7,10 43:7, 13,23 44:5 65:13	Open [1] 60:10
Mile [2] 32:2 67:2	Move [1] 7:1	Neighborhood [3] 3:18 15:22 43:16	Notice [3] 3:22 25:15 38:19	Operate [4] 39:22 57:6, 18 64:5
Mill [1] 35:6	Moving [1] 16:5	Net [1] 56:11	Noxious [2] 29:22 30:1	Operating [5] 26:17 28:3 35:1,7 61:16
Miller [4] 14:9-10,14-15	MRO [2] 6:8,20	Network [8] 3:19 45:13, 25 46:7,16 47: 23 51:9 52:10	Nuclear [1] 64:17	Operations [1] 11:4
Milligrams [1] 43:4	Multiple [2] 34:24 57:10	Never [2] 20:7 43:11	Number [8] 2:4 37:25 38: 3,16 39:24 40: 13 50:18 53:4	Opinion [1] 17:1
Million [14] 22:16 29:15, 17 34:1,4 41:10, 13 47:17 51:17 58:8-9,12 63:11, 23	Must [3] 51:5 56:7 61: 1	New [8] 7:13 9:13 11: 21 15:10 16:6 27:24 33:19 36: 13	Numbers [1] 55:23	Opportunities [3] 10:15 33:14 64:18
Millions [6] 24:24 25:2 39:18 42:3 52:1	Name [28] 2:11 3:11 4: 2,9,23 8:14,20 11:1,3 14:14 18: 25 21:9 23:8,10 26:4,6 28:16 32: 16 37:20,22 45: 10-11 52:20,22 54:21,23 59:12, 14	Newburgh [4] 28:19 29:21 31:23 32:1	O	Opportunity [5] 10:19 26:12 59:1,4 62:9
Minimum [3] 10:2 33:19 36:24	Named [1] 18:2	Newly [1] 62:18	O'clock [2] 1:13 68:4	Oppose [1] 55:6
Mining [1] 66:18	Namely [1] 29:9	Newspaper [1] 17:14	Oak [3] 30:3,6 31:20	Opt [1] 60:5
Minute [1] 20:12	Nastiest [1] 20:8	Next [20] 8:8 10:20 14:8 18:19 21:1 25:23 28:3,10 32:10 37:15 42: 5 43:14 45:3 51: 17 52:14 54:12, 15 55:9 59:6 63: 12	Oath [2] 4:1	Opt-out [1] 60:5
Miss [1] 19:1	Nation [2] 60:21 67:5	Nine [2] 61:24 67:2	Obviously [1] 15:20	Optional [1] 56:4
Mode [1] 65:10	Nation's [1] 61:13	Nobody [1] 44:22	Occupied [1] 48:17	Orange
Modify [1] 5:5	National [1] 66:13	Non [1] 62:17	Occur [1] 18:17	
Moment [1] 38:6	Natural [1] 55:13		Occurred [1] 58:2	
Money [12] 9:23 11:20, 22 23:20 24:17 28:4 30:20 31:2 49:9 54:2 63:14 64:23	Nearing [1] 34:21		Offer [7] 1:6 2:8 5:24 36:24 62:25 63: 1 65:23	
Moneys [1] 51:24	Necessity [1] 56:4		Offered [1] 41:10	
Monitor [2] 64:5 65:18	Need [24] 7:14 14:19 22:23 23:19 24:		Offering [2] 5:7 21:15	
Monoxide [1] 47:7			Office [3] 4:13 17:22 69:15	
			Officer	

[5] 11:5,9,11 12:1 13:8 Order [4] 34:13 36:24 44:11 53:11 Ordinances [1] 31:24 Orevec [5] 28:11-12,18, 21 Organization [2] 23:13 52:4 Organizations [5] 25:8 46:4 47: 24 60:4 67:13 Organizer [2] 37:23 38:14 Original [1] 58:7 Orleans [1] 52:23 Otherwise [2] 65:9 69:13 Ourselves [1] 42:2 Outage [2] 12:8 30:11 Outages [2] 12:16 29:6 Outing [1] 20:24 Outside [3] 32:5 51:2,15 Outweighs [1] 50:19 Oven [1] 53:15 Overall [1] 35:22 Overcome [1] 26:24 Overgrown [1] 30:4 Own [2] 43:12 58:24 Owner [3] 29:20 32:7 48:17 Owner-occupied [1] 48:17 Owners [1] 17:9 Owning [1] 61:16	[1] 32:5 Park [1] 38:11 Parks [1] 32:6 Part [11] 5:14 12:17 16:7 20:4 30:21 31:8,11 40:12 50:4 52:2 58:6 Participate [3] 6:16 7:23 11: 14 Participating [3] 33:25 62:21 63:4 Participation [2] 38:2 40:4 Particular [2] 7:11 14:22 Parties [3] 2:14 9:7 18:3 Partly [1] 66:17 Partners [2] 46:11 51:12 Partnership [5] 9:6,14 10:12 46:3,17 Parts [2] 41:18,25 Party [3] 6:17 64:4 69: 12 Pass [3] 13:24 19:23 54:13 Passable [1] 62:17 Passage [2] 26:24 60:17 Passed [1] 35:6 Past [7] 12:2,17 15:9 33:10 35:7 47: 16 64:24 Pay [13] 15:8 19:12 20:10 30:21 38: 10 40:21 42:22 53:11 54:2,5 62: 24 63:6 64:7 Paying [1] 15:7 Payment [1] 56:4 Payne [1] 45:13 Peak [2] 36:8,10 Pearl [1] 8:17 Pending [1] 5:25 Pennington	[4] 18:19-20 19: 1-2 Pension [1] 24:7 People [27] 17:3,5,11 18:14 19:6 20:6 25:4 29:15 32:2 38:4,11,16,18, 22 39:5,12,14 40:5,18,21,24 42:3,25 43:11 53:22 54:9 56:8 People's [1] 31:17 Pepper [2] 11:7,11 Per [4] 22:2 34:1 58: 9 65:4 Percent [26] 9:9 10:3,6 11:17 15:18-19, 23 16:10,12 17: 15-17 27:20-21 33:19 40:23 41: 22 49:5 51:3 55: 9 60:20 61:12 Percentage [1] 10:2 Percentages [1] 18:11 Period [2] 40:8 61:8 Permitted [1] 57:18 Person [1] 16:9 Person's [1] 15:19 Personal [4] 15:13 27:1, 11 44:2 Persons [1] 50:18 Persuade [1] 62:9 Phase [2] 27:1 62:24 Phase-in [1] 62:24 Phase-out [1] 27:1 Phased [1] 19:20 Philip [3] 10:21-22 11:3 Phillips [2] 69:5,19 Phone [3] 23:18 44:8-9 Picked [1] 24:6 Pickup [1] 66:1 Piece	[2] 19:19 20:1 Pike [2] 11:7,11 PIP [1] 54:6 Pitch [1] 19:22 Place [12] 6:5 11:25 22:19 29:22 38: 9,17 39:5 41:3 49:13 51:20 58: 20 69:10 Placed [1] 54:9 Places [1] 39:6 Plain [2] 12:25 13:5 Plan [16] 1:8 2:10 5: 19 15:11 16:6, 21 39:11 40:7 55:7 62:19,25 63:1,10-11 64:1 Planned [1] 63:21 Plant [1] 64:17 Plants [4] 66:20 67:1-2, 4 Playing [1] 28:25 Plays [1] 60:24 PM [2] 1:13 68:4 Pockets [1] 57:21 Point [6] 14:20 34:21 35:16 38:6 41:1 51:18 Points [1] 37:25 Poison [6] 30:3,5-6 31: 20 Pollution [2] 64:14 66:9 Poor [2] 43:9 51:1 Population [1] 17:2 Porter [2] 3:5 Portfolio [1] 7:6 Position [2] 26:8 56:17 Possibility [1] 61:15 Possible [5] 6:22 7:24 13:	6,20-21 Posted [1] 56:11 Potential [1] 6:8 Potentially [1] 47:7 Poulos [2] 2:21-22 Poverty [4] 40:16 41:22 51:3,16 Power [32] 8:25 12:1,3, 7-8,11,13,16 29: 1,6,9-11,16 30: 22-23 60:8,10 61:5,12,14,19- 21 63:23 64:17 65:6,8 66:20,23 67:1-2 Precedent [1] 67:20 Preceding [1] 16:15 Prepare [1] 25:17 Prepay [1] 11:19 Prepayment [2] 9:11,18 Prescription [2] 55:14,19 Present [2] 9:17 11:8 Presenting [1] 18:5 President [1] 56:13 Pretty [1] 42:24 Previously [3] 3:20 37:10 49:25 Price [42] 2:1,11,20 3: 8,24 4:9,15 8:8, 14,19 10:20 11: 1 14:8 18:18,24 21:1,9 23:2,8 25:23 26:4 28: 10,16,20 32:10, 16 37:11,14,20 42:5 45:3,9 52: 14,20 54:12,15, 21 59:2-3,12,17 67:22 Prices [5] 55:13-15 61: 22 Pricing [1] 6:9 Prided [1] 39:10 Primarily [1] 39:13
P				
Pad [1] 57:20 Page [1] 57:9 Paid [2] 15:10 43:14 Paper [3] 19:5,20 20:2 Parcel				

Priority [4] 12:19 14:6 64:11 65:23	Properties [2] 30:7 31:16	21 34:2 36:23 39:21 51:9,20 57:5,25 58:2,25 60:14,24 62:2,5, 9,14 67:6,11,19	17,19,21-22 22: 23 24:14 26:13 30:20 33:4,20 34:2,6,8 37:2 50:4 51:21 53: 21 54:1,10 55: 10 56:4 57:19 58:8 63:10 67:15	[1] 61:25
Britchett [3] 42:6-7,11	Property [24] 27:1,11 29: 20 30:2,5,10,13, 17,19,22,25 31: 4,8,12,17-18,21, 25 32:3,7-8 35: 11 45:12	PUCO's [3] 5:18 57:24 58:19	Rates [24] 3:18 6:22 15:17 16:1,4-5, 18 23:22 24:22 30:15 33:13,18 35:15,24-25 36: 11,14 37:9 41:8 45:20 50:11 54: 6 58:22 59:22	Recognizes [1] 9:24
Private [1] 57:2	Proportionate [1] 63:2	Pull [1] 20:23	Rather [2] 21:7 36:20	Recommend [2] 41:15 67:6
Problems [1] 31:18	Proportionately [1] 15:16	Punch [2] 20:16	Ravenna [1] 26:7	Record [18] 4:3 7:17 8: 15 11:2 13:1,19 21:10 23:9 26:5 28:17 32:17 37: 12-14,21 52:21 54:22 59:13
Proceed [4] 4:15 8:19 28: 20 59:17	Proposal [1] 57:15	Purchasing [1] 60:8	Reach [3] 25:3,20 38:25	Recording [1] 20:16
Proceedings [8] 1:13 3:9 6:6, 21 7:24 69:6,8, 10	Proposed [17] 6:7 8:24 14: 21 15:2,9 16:3- 4 17:9 21:15 27: 17 34:8 55:6,10 58:7 61:18 63: 10,23	Purported [1] 56:7	Reaching [1] 5:10	Records [1] 44:6
Process [2] 6:17 24:22	Protect [4] 12:6 18:16 41:14 59:1	Pursuant [2] 1:7 2:8	Read [3] 20:2 55:2 65: 16	Recourse [1] 41:23
Producing [1] 64:16	Protection [3] 17:8,24 66:11	Pursue [1] 26:19	Reading [3] 15:17 16:9 17:14	Recover [2] 20:4 35:11
Production [1] 7:13	Protections [1] 58:20	Pushed [1] 16:24	Reads [1] 55:5	Recovery [1] 20:3
Profit [4] 13:3 56:20 58:1,14	Protested [1] 3:21	Put [7] 17:1 24:17- 18 27:19 56:20 64:10	Real [1] 64:3	Reduce [4] 9:22 50:15 51:7 64:13
Profits [4] 13:1,19 41: 13 56:10	Provide [13] 10:14 41:17 44:1 46:6,23 49: 18 50:8,20 60: 11 61:21 63:18 66:22 67:14	Puts [1] 51:20	Reality [1] 17:16	Reduced [1] 69:7
Program [35] 9:11-12,17- 18 11:15,17,19 13:7,10,13,20 21:24 22:25 27: 16 28:9 33:9,17, 24 35:4,23 36:2, 19 37:1 46:9-10, 14,17 47:6,18 48:1,7 49:18 51: 5,11 63:8	Providers [4] 46:16 49:18 50:7 52:10	Putting [2] 49:17 65:5	Realize [1] 14:19	Reducing [2] 22:9 50:14
Programming [1] 35:10	Provides [2] 60:7 65:16	Qualified [1] 69:6	Realized [3] 7:25 9:8,11	Reduction [1] 22:6
Programs [34] 10:13 14:1 25:10 27:9 33: 11 35:17 36:22 41:6 45:17,19 46:24 48:3,23 49:2-3,16,24 50: 17 51:4,22 52:3 62:11,14,22 63: 5,12,17,19 64:2, 6,9 65:11,20,23	Providing [4] 17:8 46:1,17, 25	Quality [2] 66:12-13	Really [9] 18:12 24:20 25:4,8 38:6,21- 22 40:12 41:11	Referenced [1] 55:15
Project [1] 52:7	Provisions [2] 57:25 61:11	Quickly [2] 12:23 37:25	Reason [3] 24:15 57:12 58:18	Reflecting [1] 50:25
Projects [1] 61:16	Public [23] 1:1 2:2 5: 21 11:9,12,23 12:21 14:2,4 20: 19 21:22 22:19 36:25 38:7 43: 24 56:20 58:16 59:1,23 60:2 64: 20 69:5,20	Quoted [2] 16:1-2	Reasonable [2] 58:4,13	Refrigerated [1] 42:17
Promised [2] 51:24-25	Publication [1] 56:13	Quoting [1] 62:2	Rebates [1] 65:24	Refrigerators [1] 48:9
Promises [1] 51:21	PUCO [28] 5:25 6:5,18, 25 7:7,19 17:21 19:5 20:22 33:	Race [1] 7:12	Receive [3] 6:12 59:18 63:4	Refuse [2] 31:3,21
Promote [2] 62:4 67:12		Racks [1] 56:9	Received [5] 10:5 15:4 16: 20 56:14 63:3	Regard [1] 21:15
Promoting [1] 7:2		Radius [1] 67:3	Receives [3] 24:8 46:9 59: 22	Regards [1] 47:12
Properly [1] 5:16		Raise [4] 20:24 40:20 50:11 58:22	Recent [2] 12:12 34:22	Region [2] 31:7 66:5
		Raises [1] 17:16	Reckless [1] 57:18	Regional [1] 40:17
		Ramifications [1] 5:10	Recognized	Regulations [1] 57:11
		Ranks [1] 60:21		Regulatory [1] 7:14
		Rate [42] 5:5,24 8:24 9:22 10:7 12:24 13:11,21 14:5, 22 15:1,9,21 16: 6,16 17:9 21:16-		Relate [1] 39:20
				Related [3] 5:24 47:1 67: 1
				Relates [3] 39:15-16,23
				Relating [1] 63:9
				Relationship [1] 24:12
				Relative

<p>[1] 69:12 Remains [2] 7:20 60:10 Remember [1] 20:19 REMEMBERED [1] 1:10 Remind [1] 58:18 Renew [1] 14:5 Renewable [7] 7:3,14 60:15, 25 61:10 66:5 67:16 Renewed [1] 50:2 Rent [3] 31:11 54:2-3 Rents [1] 20:24 Repair [3] 12:10 48:16, 18 Repairs [2] 48:24 49:22 Reparented [1] 52:25 Reparenting [1] 52:25 Replace [1] 28:4 Replacement [2] 48:8,18 Reports [1] 13:19 Represent [1] 2:22 Representation [2] 14:20 18:10 Representative [2] 5:1 17:22 Represented [1] 5:16 Representing [2] 14:17 32:24 Represents [2] 9:20 11:10 Request [4] 5:5,11 10:6 64:10 Requested [2] 5:12 35:9 Requesting [2] 14:2 49:8 Requests [1] 34:20 Require [1] 64:4 Required [4] 49:22 62:5, 23 63:6 Requirement [1] 62:7 Researched</p>	<p>[1] 14:21 Residential [3] 2:23 60:6 63: 17 Residents [11] 4:20 6:11, 23 7:25 14:17 45:22 46:6,12 47:15 50:23 57: 13 Respectfully [1] 58:18 Respond [1] 14:6 Responded [1] 12:19 Response [3] 5:4 6:18 12: 17 Responsibility [1] 31:12 Responsible [3] 29:20,25 31:3 Rest [1] 66:22 Restock [1] 42:21 Restore [1] 12:13 Restrictions [1] 66:14 Restructuring [1] 27:3 Result [6] 7:24 29:7 30: 9 34:7 56:18 61: 22 Resulting [1] 62:24 Resume [1] 68:1 Retail [3] 6:12,22 61:20 Retain [1] 41:5 Revamped [1] 22:24 Revenue [4] 22:10 27:2 28:5 35:12 Revenues [1] 35:20 Review [4] 5:18 6:17 13: 17 62:6 Revised [3] 1:7 2:9 62:23 Revoke [1] 57:5 Rewarded [1] 57:19 Ride [1] 44:1 Ridge [1] 32:20</p>	<p>Rights [1] 23:13 Rings [1] 25:7 Rising [1] 53:11 River [6] 32:19-20,23 33:1 35:6 66:21 RMR [2] 69:5,19 Road [3] 8:17 26:7 32: 20 Robert [4] 8:9-10,16,20 Roberto [2] 1:11 2:13 Rocky [5] 32:19-20,23, 25 35:6 Role [2] 56:25 60:25 Rollback [1] 27:11 Ronald [3] 14:9-10,14 Roof [1] 48:18 Room [1] 24:2 Rug [1] 44:23 Rules [4] 40:6 62:3,6, 12 Run [2] 27:8 64:2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <p>Sacrifice [1] 66:21 Sad [1] 41:10 Safe [4] 44:12,14 47: 9 48:20 Safeguards [1] 41:3 Safety [3] 47:1,4 49:22 Sagged [1] 29:12 Save [2] 58:3 64:23 Saving [1] 22:16 Savings [8] 9:15 10:9 33: 13 49:2 60:11- 12 61:23 64:3 Saw [1] 41:8 Scale [5] 35:18 60:5 62:4,15 67:12</p>	<p>School [27] 9:4 11:12, 18,23 12:6,10, 14 13:16,24 22: 5,12,20-21 26: 15 27:6 33:1,7 34:18-19,23 35: 2,24 36:9,14,16, 25 37:9 Schools [27] 8:17,23 9:1, 3,5,18 11:5,9, 14 12:21 14:4 21:13,23 22:20, 25 26:10 27:2,7, 13 32:19,23 34: 5 36:4,7,25 37: 3,8 Schools' [1] 36:5 Schottenstein [1] 3:6 Schreiber [1] 55:5 Schrieber [2] 39:2 55:4 Scientists [1] 60:22 Seal [1] 69:15 Searching [1] 57:7 Section [2] 1:7 2:8 Sector [1] 63:17 Security [15] 1:8 2:10 5: 19 19:17 22:7 28:24 39:11,15, 17,21,23 42:1 55:7 62:19 63:1 See [5] 19:4 38:3 40: 1 41:11 51:23 Seeing [1] 67:24 Seek [1] 6:21 Seeking [1] 28:3 Seemingly [1] 55:16 Seize [1] 58:25 Seizures [1] 42:16 Senate [5] 57:22 60:17 61:25 62:20 67: 10 Senior [3] 19:6 44:13,20 Seniors [1] 56:9 Sense</p>	<p>[1] 42:22 Sent [1] 55:3 Separate [1] 14:4 September [4] 1:12 12:12 19:16 69:16 Series [1] 58:15 Serious [1] 50:11 Seriously [2] 50:9 54:8 Serve [1] 57:13 Service [22] 1:6 2:8,18 5:6 6:12,23 11: 21 13:18 14:7 22:4 46:2,16,20 47:22 49:19,21 50:8 62:25 63:7- 8,19,24 Services [11] 8:22 11:5 22:9 45:12 46:6, 23 47:25 50:19, 21,25 66:1 Servicing [2] 46:12 51:15 Session [1] 36:10 Set [4] 2:3 60:17 67: 10 69:15 Setting [2] 21:18 67:21 Settlement [1] 52:2 Several [4] 35:14 47:16 52:1 63:9 Shape [1] 44:15 Share [3] 4:22 14:23 17:3 Shared [1] 8:3 Sheet [1] 59:4 Sheila [3] 18:19-20 19:1 Shirts [3] 19:12,24 38:4 Shocked [1] 18:12 Shoes [1] 53:9 Shot [1] 20:5 Sick [1] 43:1 Side</p>
---	--	---	---	---

<p>[1] 40:19 Sign [3] 59:4 67:23 Sign-up [1] 59:4 Significant [6] 9:10 12:3 34:10 35:11 36:21 38:16 Significantly [1] 66:19 Simplicity [1] 64:20 Simply [2] 35:4,20 Sin [1] 20:24 Single [1] 32:7 Six [4] 17:16 38:10 52:25 55:9 Skeptical [1] 58:11 Skyline [1] 59:15 Slap [1] 58:22 Slash [1] 22:2 Slow [1] 12:16 Slum [1] 31:14 Small [3] 17:2 24:8 60:6 Smaller [1] 63:24 Smart [1] 66:2 Social [1] 19:17 Society [1] 3:13 Solar [1] 61:13 Someone [2] 20:18 23:24 Sometimes [1] 24:4 Somewhere [1] 15:22 Sorry [1] 21:7 Sort [1] 18:8 Sources [4] 7:3 60:10 61:3 64:13 South [2] 1:17 2:18 Speaking [1] 23:24 Spear</p>	<p>[5] 59:7-8,14-15,18 Special [7] 6:2 14:5 16:16,18 35:24 36:11,13 Specialist [1] 64:5 Specific [1] 17:2 Specifically [2] 15:3 47:13 Specified [1] 69:10 Specify [1] 63:13 Spend [3] 63:11,14 64:15 Spending [1] 24:23 Spouse [1] 24:8 Spread [1] 47:19 Square [3] 32:2 43:17 65:2 SS [1] 69:2 Stacked [2] 21:20-21 Staff [4] 6:1 7:22 9:23 32:25 Stand [2] 44:21 Standard [4] 1:6 5:6 60:16 62:25 Standards [6] 7:6,8 66:6,14 67:10,17 Standby [2] 63:6 65:10 Star [1] 48:10 Started [3] 18:4 35:8 65:12 Starting [2] 2:15 51:18 State [35] 4:2,9 5:7 8:14 11:1 16:25 17:22 18:24 21:9 22:11 23:8 26:4,16 27:5,8 28:16 32:16 34:19 37:20 45:9 46:13 48:4 49:1 52:20 54:21 57:10 59:12 60:19 61:1 66:7,22 67:16 69:2,5,20 State's</p>	<p>[1] 27:3 Statement [1] 25:21 States [6] 7:2 29:5,16 62:2,20 64:4 Station [1] 32:1 Statute [1] 61:11 Stay [2] 22:22 42:18 Steadfast [1] 7:21 Stefanie [3] 59:6,8,14 Stenotypy [1] 69:7 Steve [4] 3:1 54:16-17,23 Still [1] 16:14 Stimulate [1] 16:24 Stipend [1] 24:8 Stove [1] 53:14 Strain [1] 35:16 Strapped [1] 55:12 Street [4] 1:17 2:19 21:13 28:19 Strickland [3] 7:17 40:14 41:19 Strickland's [1] 17:21 Strips [2] 65:6,8 Strong [2] 66:6 67:17 Strongly [2] 10:11 55:6 Strongsville [6] 8:17-18,22 9:1,3,18 Structure [1] 5:6 Struggles [1] 51:1 Struggling [3] 26:24 45:22 50:23 Students [3] 26:23 32:24 33:15 Subject [1] 5:20 Subsidiaries [1] 61:21 Substantial</p>	<p>[1] 61:23 Success [1] 62:13 Successes [1] 65:19 Sufficient [1] 25:15 Suggest [3] 51:16 55:23 63:15 Suit [1] 21:8 Suitable [1] 57:12 Suite [1] 1:17 Suits [3] 19:11,24 38:4 Summary [1] 51:8 Summer [1] 36:8 SUMMIT [1] 69:3 Sunday [2] 12:8,12 Superintendent [1] 26:9 Supply [1] 61:5 Support [2] 33:7 59:25 Supportive [1] 26:21 Supports [1] 7:15 Supposed [1] 44:4 Suppressors [1] 12:5 Surcharge [1] 62:24 Surely [1] 22:13 Surge [1] 29:11 Surges [2] 12:4,16 Survive [1] 19:8 Survived [1] 19:8 Survivor [1] 53:3 Sweeping [1] 44:22 Switching [1] 62:11 Sworn [16] 4:7 8:12 10:24 14:12 18:22 21:5 23:6 26:2 28:14 32:14 37:18 42:9 45:7 52:18 54:19 59:10</p>	<p>Sympathetic [1] 37:7 System [4] 29:1,4 30:16 49:23 T Table [1] 6:5 Tangible [2] 27:1,11 Tank [1] 53:17 Tax [6] 27:1,6,11 31:5 35:12,20 Taxpayers [1] 34:21 Teachers [5] 9:21 10:10 27:22,24 34:16 Teaching [1] 9:23 Technical [2] 6:3 46:21 Technology [1] 8:22 Ten [6] 9:2 33:11 40:23 51:18 57:9 67:2 Tenants [1] 31:13 Tent [1] 19:23 Terms [4] 6:10,22 24:16,21 Territories [3] 47:20,22 63:19 Territory [4] 46:5,20 47:15 63:24 Testified [17] 4:8 8:13 10:25 14:13 18:23 21:6 23:7 26:3 28:15 32:15 37:6,19 42:10 45:8 52:19 54:20 59:11 Testify [4] 37:6 44:18 59:5 67:23 Testifying [1] 42:12 Testimony [3] 3:25 21:15 67:19 Thankful [1] 65:15 Therefore [2] 31:16 36:11 Third [2] 36:3 64:4</p>
--	---	--	--	---

THOMAS [1] 23:4 Thousand [3] 13:14 15:14 48:24 Thousands [1] 52:8 Three [8] 10:10 16:11 34:16 36:8 43:17 49:1 55:9 61:7 Throughout [5] 9:4 46:5 47:20,25 60:15 Throw [1] 42:21 Thursday [1] 1:12 Tied [1] 57:24 Tim [2] 37:15,22 TIMOTHY [1] 37:16 Today [22] 3:9,14 5:1 8:23 10:19 11:8 20:2 23:25 28:22 29:2,18 32:24 37:6 42:12 43:21 44:19 45:15 52:11 55:4 57:16 58:17 67:19 Today's [2] 3:25 5:20 Toledo [4] 1:6 2:7 36:12 47:21 Tom [3] 23:2,10 39:3 Tonight [1] 68:1 Took [5] 11:25 12:9,12 15:6 29:15 Top [4] 21:20,22 33:21 64:11 Total [7] 10:1 13:15 34:15 39:11 48:5 56:14 67:2 Tough [1] 13:23 Towards [1] 37:8 Transaction [1] 61:18 Transcribed [1] 69:7 Transcription [2] 1:15 69:8 Transition [1] 61:2	Transportation [2] 43:24 55:20 Treasurer [1] 32:22 Treat [2] 14:3 22:25 Treated [1] 12:19 Trees [1] 29:13 Trend [1] 55:23 Triple [1] 51:14 Trips [1] 29:14 True [1] 69:8 Try [2] 12:6 25:9 Trying [4] 20:9 22:22 23:15 53:8 Turbine [1] 29:14 Turn [1] 65:8 Turned [1] 66:21 Twinsburg [2] 26:7,9 Two [3] 9:20 33:10 65:3 Type [6] 17:8 27:8 28:4 41:16,24 44:9 Types [2] 10:16 17:10	56:9 59:4 67:23 Upgrading [1] 25:11 Urge [3] 17:7,19 50:9 Usage [5] 48:5 49:3 65:4,18 Users [2] 46:19 65:14 Utilities [9] 1:1 14:3 23:20 25:11 48:3 53:12 60:2 63:22 67:9 Utility [11] 2:2 3:17 13:3 24:14,21 25:16 55:12,24 57:2 63:6 64:6	[2] 58:11 67:22 Warming [3] 60:24 64:14 66:8 Warner [2] 3:3 Water [3] 53:17 64:13 66:9 Ways [3] 24:23 25:2 45:21 Weatherization [5] 25:5 45:16 46:13 47:2 65:25 Weed [1] 29:23 Weeds [2] 29:23 30:1 Week [2] 24:4 56:13 Weekday [1] 38:9 Welcome [1] 2:2 Welfare [1] 23:13 WHEREOF [1] 69:14 White [3] 19:11,24 38:4 Whole [1] 44:6 Williams [1] 18:2 Wind [2] 61:13,16 Wiring [2] 47:9 48:17 Wish [1] 54:7 Witness [33] 4:4,6 8:9,11 10:20,23 14:8,11 18:19,21 21:2,4 23:5 25:24 26:1 28:11,13 32:11,13 37:15,17 42:6,8 45:3,6 52:14,17 54:12,15,18 59:6,9 69:14 Woman [1] 38:3 Woodmere [1] 11:12 Wore [1] 21:8 Works [3] 46:11 53:16-17 World [1] 44:14 Worried [1] 43:12 Worry	[1] 43:13 Worse [1] 44:15 Worsening [1] 55:24 Worst [1] 29:6 Worthy [2] 37:9 52:6 Written [1] 10:4 Www.bish-associates.com [1] 1:23
Y				
Year [12] 13:1 15:14 16:13 22:2 34:1 40:8 42:4 52:24 56:17 58:9 61:8 64:24 Year's [1] 10:6 Yearly [1] 13:8 Years [17] 9:2 12:2,15 13:12 16:11,15 19:20 28:3 33:11 35:14 46:3 47:16 51:18 52:1 55:9 63:13				
Z				
Zero [1] 58:12 Zone [1] 66:22 Zox [1] 3:6				