# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of		
Columbus Southern Power Company for	)	Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO
Approval of its Electric Security Plan; an	)	
Amendment to its Corporate Separation	)	
Plan; and the Sale or Transfer of Certain	)	
Generation Assets.	)	
In the Matter of the Application of Ohio	)	
Power Company for Approval of its	)	Case No. 08-918-EL-SSO
Electric Security Plan; and an Amendment	)	
to its Corporate Separation Plan.	)	

#### **DIRECT TESTIMONY**

of

#### LEE SMITH

ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL 10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485 (614) 466-8574

#### OCTOBER 31, 2008

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1	I.	INTRODUCTION
2	<b>Q</b> 1.	WHAT IS YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS?
3	<i>A1</i> .	My name is Lee Smith, and I work for La Capra Associates, One Washington
4		Mall, Boston, Massachusetts.
5		
6	<i>Q2</i> .	ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING IN THIS PROCEEDING?
7	A2.	I am testifying on behalf of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel ("OCC").
8		
9	Q3.	PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE.
10	<i>A3</i> .	I am a Managing Consultant and Senior Economist at La Capra Associates. I
11		have been with this energy planning and regulatory economics firm for 24 years.
12		I have prepared testimony on regulatory issues, power costs, rates and cost
13		allocation regarding more than 50 utilities in 18 states and before the Federal
14		Energy Regulatory Commission. Prior to my employment at La Capra
15		Associates, I was Director of Rates and Research, in charge of gas, electric, and
16		water rates, at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. Prior to that
17		period, I taught economics at the college level.
18		
19	Q4.	PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.
20	<i>A4</i> .	I have a bachelor's degree with honors in International Relations and Economics
21		from Brown University. I have completed all requirements for a Ph.D. in
22		economics except the dissertation from Tufts University.
23		

#### 1 *05*. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS 2 **PROCEEDING?** 3 A5. La Capra Associates has been retained by the OCC to review the Electric Security 4 Plans ("ESPs") filed by Columbus Southern Power Company ("CSPCO") and 5 Ohio Power Company ("OPCO"), together known as American Electric Power – 6 Ohio ("AEP-Ohio", or "Companies"), and the comparison of the ESPs to the 7 Market Rate Offers ("MROs") presented by the Companies. I will address the question of whether the proposed ESPs are "more favorable in the aggregate" than 8 9 the MROs, and whether the proposed ESPs should be accepted by the 10 Commission. 11 12 06. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TOPICS COVERED IN YOUR TESTIMONY. 13 A6. First, I describe the ESPs and the MROs proposed by the Companies in detail. 14 Second, I explain how the Companies have priced the generation service, 15 included in both the ESPs and the MROs, that is not based on projected or 16 estimated market prices during the ESP period. Third, I analyze, critique, and 17 revise the estimate of market prices that is included in both ESPs and MROs. 18 Fourth, I utilize the results of prior analyses to compare the proposed ESPs and 19 MROs. Fifth, I discuss a number of other components of and issues in the 20 proposed ESPs. Finally, I make recommendations to the Commission regarding 21 the ESPs filed by the Companies.

# 1 Q7. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR CONCLUSIONS.

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2	A7.	I find that the Companies have not demonstrated that the proposed ESPs are more
3		favorable to customers than the MROs. I recommend that the Commission only
4		consider adopting ESPs after making the modifications made by OCC witnesses.
5		I am making the following recommendations:
6		• A reduction to the initial generation price, reflecting updated and lower
7		fuel costs and the market prices of power likely to prevail in the ESP
8		period:
9		• A rejection of the POLR charges proposed by the Companies;
10		• A rejection of the deferral scheme <sup>1</sup> included in the proposal;
11		• A reduction of the proposed automatic increases to distribution rates; and
12		• Some revisions to the proposed fuel adjustment clause to better protect
13		customers.
14		
15	Q8.	WHAT IS THE FRAMEWORK FOR FUTURE STANDARD SERVICE
16		OFFER SERVICE TO OHIO ELECTRIC RETAIL RATEPAYERS, AS
17		MANDATED BY THE MOST RECENT LEGISLATION?
18	<i>A8</i> .	Amended Substitute Senate Bill No. 221 ("SB 221") required each electric utility
19		to offer Standard Service Offer ("SSO") generation service to all retail customers
20		beginning January 1, 2009. This service could be provided by an Electric
21		Security Plan or a Market Rate Offer. The latter for AEP Ohio, however, was not

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Although if the Commission accepts my recommendations, rate increases may be held below the 15% that would have triggered deferrals.

1		solely based on market prices, but was a blended price that had to consist of a
2		large amount of power at a price based on the most recent prior SSO price. The
3		legislation states that the Companies should demonstrate that the proposed ESPs
4		are more favorable to customers than the MROs.
5		It is important to note the legislation does not require the SSO rates set through an
6		ESP to be cost-of-service-based, nor have the Companies proposed such a rate for
7		SSO service. The legislation, however, did contain provisions for annual review
8		of ESP rate adjustments to prevent excessive earnings to the utility.
9		
10	II.	OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED ESPS AND THE MROS
11	Q9.	CAN THE ESP AND MRO PRICES BE EASILY COMPARED?
11 12	Q9. A9.	CAN THE ESP AND MRO PRICES BE EASILY COMPARED? No, for several reasons. First, a fundamental characteristic of the proposed ESPs
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#### 1 Q10. HOW HAVE THE COMPANIES DESIGNED THEIR ESPS?

2 A10. The Companies have proposed an identical structure of an ESP for both CSPCO and OPCO. This construct consists of a (1) SSO generation service rate<sup>2</sup> that 3 4 customers will pay in 2009 to 2011 which will be determined by the amount that 5 will hold annual rate increases (except for the impact of transmission rate increases) to 15% per year<sup>3</sup> for the years 2009 to 2011, (2) a Provider of Last 6 7 Resort ("POLR") charge (which will be discussed in Section VI), and (3) several 8 new rate riders, which would recover projected increases in various costs such as, 9 transmission costs and energy efficiency and demand reduction costs. The 10 Companies project that price increases, reflecting all charges except transmission 11 charges, would be considerably higher than the 15% cap proposed and so they 12 seek to defer all costs above the 15% cap during the three-year ESP period. They 13 propose to recover deferred costs, with carrying costs at their weighted average 14 cost of capital, over seven years beginning in 2012, from all SSO customers either 15 through a future ESP or the non-market portion of an MRO. (Assante p. 8-9) 16 AEP-Ohio witness Mr. Assante estimates that total deferrals in 2009, including 17 carrying costs for 2009, would be \$118.2 million for CSPCO and \$316.7 million 18 for OPCO. Additional deferrals are projected for 2010 for OPCO. Over time, the 19 Companies estimate that customers would be charged carrying costs of \$99.4 20 million for CSPCO and \$361.8 million for OPCO.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Which will in some years be lower than what the Company has defined as its generation price; the difference between the price and the charge will result in cost deferrals.

<sup>3</sup> 

The fifteen percent target was based purely on the Companies' judgment. (Baker, p. 20)

# 1 Q11. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE AMOUNT OF COSTS THAT WILL BE

- 2 **DEFERRED**?
- A11. Deferral amounts will depend on the difference between generation revenues that
  would result from rates which increase at approximately 15% per year and
  revenue targets that result from the Companies' offered SSO service. I use the
  term "revenue targets" because the dollars that the Companies plan to collect
  through the SSO service are not based on the cost of providing generation service.
  The Companies project total deferrals of \$412 million in 2009.
- 9

10 The Companies construct an underlying pricing structure for the SSO generation 11 service included in the ESP that is based upon two components. One component 12 is market-priced power, purchased to meet 5% of the 2009 load, 10%, of 2010 13 and 15% of 2010 load. The other component, which will provide the remainder 14 of the generation needed (95% in 2009), will be based on the Companies' calculation of its current SSO price, adjusted to 2009, 2010, and 2011 levels for 15 16 various components of power costs, through a Fuel Adjustment Clause ("FAC") 17 and an automatic increase to the non-FAC portion of the current SSO.

18

# *Q12.* WHY DOES THE SSO INCLUDE AN AMOUNT OF POWER PROCURED *AT MARKET PRICES*<sup>4</sup>?

A12. The Companies have chosen to include some market-based power in their ESP, as
part of the "continuing transition to market rates." (Baker p. 22) This is not a

I will refer to power procured at market prices as "market-based power."

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1		requirement of Senate Bill 221 for the filing of ESP. However, Senate Bill 221
2		does have a market-based power requirement for MRO generation service.
3		
4	Q13.	PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE MRO DESCRIBED BY THE
5		COMPANIES.
6	A13.	As specified by R.C. 4928.142 (D), an initial 2009 MRO for CSPCO and OPCO
7		should be priced using a blend of 10% market-based power, and the remaining
8		90% priced at the utility's most recent SSO price, adjusted for known and
9		measureable changes to specified costs. In the Companies' proposed MROs (and
10		also in the ESPs) the most recent SSO price is adjusted for projected changes in
11		fuel and purchased power costs. In each year 2010 and 2011 the proportion of
12		market-based power increases, again as specified by R.C. 4928.142 (D). The
13		AEP-Ohio MRO also includes a POLR charge.
14		
15	Q14.	THE LEGISLATION DESCRIBES THE MARKET-BASED POWER THAT
16		IS BLENDED INTO THE MRO AS RESULTING FROM A COMPETITIVE
17		BID. SINCE AEP-OHIO HAS NOT YET GONE THROUGH THE
18		COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS, HOW DO THE COMPANIES REPRESENT
19		THE PRICE OF MARKET-BASED POWER?
20	A14.	The Companies estimate the price of electric generation that would result from a
21		competitive auction in 2009 for power for 2009 - 2011. They use this value for
22		market-based power for the three years of the ESP.
23		

1	Q15.	WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR THESE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE
2		ESTIMATED MARKET PRICE OF POWER (ELECTRICITY)?
3	A15.	The average energy price is estimated based on forward market prices. This price
4		is adjusted for load shape and for uncertainty. Estimates of PJM Ancillary
5		services, PJM Capacity Obligations, Transaction Risk, and a retail administration
6		charge are added to the energy price. I discuss this estimation process in detail in
7		section IV of my testimony.
8		
9	Q16.	DOES THE ESP USE THE SAME ESTIMATED MARKET PRICE THAT IS
10		USED IN THE MRO?
11	A16.	Yes, apparently. While this is not stated explicitly in testimony, Mr. Baker
12		describes the power purchases through the market in the ESP as a "slice of
13		system." It, like the market-based power in the MRO, would consist of a
14		purchase, resulting from a competitive solicitation, of a specified percentage of
15		the Companies' load in every hour. <sup>5</sup>
16		
17	<b>Q</b> 17.	IF BOTH THE ESP AND THE MRO CONSIST OF SOME POWER (OR
18		ELECTRICITY) PRICED AT THE SAME MARKET-BASED PRICE, SOME
19		POWER PRICED AT A STANDARD SERVICE OFFER PRICE, AND A
20		POLR CHARGE, HOW ARE THEY DIFFERENT?
21	A17.	There are four major differences. The first difference is that some generation
22		costs are deferred under the ESP, which reduces the rate increases during 2009 to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Deposition of J. Craig Baker, October 25, 2008 at 8-9

1		2011, but increases rates, and therefore customer costs, in 2012-2018. The second
2		difference is that twice as much power is purchased from the market in the MRO
3		as in the ESP. The third difference is that the ESP escalates the base or non-FAC
4		portion of the existing SSO rate annually by 3% and 7% per year during the ESP
5		period, while the base portion of the SSO rates does not escalate in the MRO.
6		S.B. 221 does not allow escalation of the base SSO contained in an MRO. The
7		fourth difference is that the ESP also contains a distribution rate increase which is
8		supposed to pay for enhanced reliability.
9		
10	Q18.	WHY IS THE NON-FAC PORTION OF THE SSO PRICE INCREASED IN
11		THE ESP BUT NOT IN THE MRO?
12	A18.	Senate Bill 221 allowed the most recent SSO price to be increased in an MRO
13		only for FAC cost elements. For the proposed ESP, the Companies have chosen
14		to increase what they define as the FAC portion by the same adjustments allowed
15		in the MRO (prudently incurred cost of fuel, purchase power costs, costs of
16		meeting renewable and energy efficiency requirements, and costs to comply with
17		environmental regulations), and to also increase the non-FAC portion by the 3%
18		and 7% escalation factors. They state that this is to cover inflationary factors plus
19		unanticipated generation-related cost increases. They have not presented any
20		analysis to justify these percentage increases, and in fact state that these increases
21		are not based on costs. The specific increases for each Company were chosen at
าา		least nartly because " these are consistent with the percentages that were used to

1		adjust total rates in the RSP, so we believe customers are familiar with that." <sup>6</sup>
2		This is hardly a good reason to increase rates especially in hard economic times
3		such as these. While rate increases may not necessarily be required to be based
4		on cost of service, they should nevertheless be reasonable and be tied to some
5		measure of need on the part of the Companies that can be justified.
6		
7	Q19.	HAVE THE COMPANIES PROVIDED A COMPARISON OF THE COSTS
8		THAT WOULD BE PAID BY CUSTOMERS UNDER THEIR ESP AND
9		THEIR MRO?
10	A19.	No, they have not. They have compared certain parts of both plans, but not the
11		total costs to be paid by ratepayers. My testimony, after describing and analyzing
12		the components of the two plans, will present such a comparison.
13		
14	III.	COMPUTATION OF THE PRICES OF THE SSO
15	Q20.	YOU STATED THAT THE COMPANIES DEVELOP THE PRICE OF THE
16		SSO PORTION, INCLUDING THE FAC ADJUSTMENTS, OF BOTH THE
17		ESP AND THE MRO IN ALMOST THE SAME WAY. WOULD YOU
18		PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY DEVELOP THE SSO PRICES AND THE
19		FAC ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM?
20	A20.	The 2009 generation rates are developed for the ESPs and the MROs by adjusting
21		the most recent SSO generation rates. Senate Bill 221 specifies that the
22		Commission may allow for "known and measureable changes from the level of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Deposition of J. Craig Baker, October 25, 2008 at 56.

1		any one or more of the following costs" (all specifically limited to prudently
2		incurred costs): fuel, purchased power, costs of meeting renewable energy and
3		energy efficiency requirements, and costs to comply with environmental laws and
4		regulations.
5		
6		The Company proposes to meet this legislative directive by including, in a new
7		FAC, certain accounts that reflect fuel, purchased power, and environmental
8		subaccounts, which S.B. 221 allows to be adjusted automatically. The current
9		SSO rate, which is being increased, recovers both FAC costs and base generation
10		costs. The FAC rates (the portion of the SSO rates that apply to FAC cost
11		components) are the bases for the increases in the SSO in the Companies'
12		computations. In order to adjust the most recent SSO prices only for changes in
13		these FAC accounts, they must identify the equivalent to the FAC costs in the
14		current SSO prices. The remainder of the current SSO price is the base
15		generation rate. <sup>7</sup>
16		
17	<b>Q21</b> .	IF THE AMOUNT OF THE FAC COSTS IN THE CURRENT SSO IS NOT
18		KNOWN, HOW DID THE COMPANY ESTIMATE THE ALLOWED
1 <b>9</b>		INCREASE TO THE CURRENT SSO FOR INCREASES IN FAC COSTS?
20	A21.	AEP-Ohio witness Mr. Nelson began this process by adding up 1999 amounts for
21		the accounts that he has identified as belonging in the FAC. He then escalated

 $<sup>^7</sup>$   $\,$  As I discuss in Section VI, the Companies propose to increase the base generation component in their ESPs.

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1		these amounts by the increases to 1999 generation rates that had been allowed in
2		the Rate Stabilization Plan for 2006, 2007, and 2008. The allowed increases were
3		7% for OPCO and 3% for CSPCO. He also made further adjustments for the
4		Power Acquisition Rider ("PAR") for CSPCO and for changes in the Regulatory
5		Asset Charge ("RAC") for OPCO. This produced his estimate of FAC includable
6		costs for 2009.
7		
8	Q22.	IS THIS A REASONABLE WAY TO DETERMINE THE COST OF FUEL,
9		PURCHASED POWER, AND EMISSIONS ALLOWANCES FOR THE
10		PURPOSE OF CALCULATING AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENTS, AS
11		ALLOWED IN R.C. 4928.143 (B) (2)?
12	A22.	No, it is not. The cost of fuel, purchased power, and emissions allowances are
13		actual numbers. The 7% and 3% escalation to rates that was adopted in Case No.
14		04-169-EL-UNC was based on opinion – the Companies' opinion about the
15		increase in total generation revenues that they wanted. Over the RSP period, the
16		fuel costs <sup>8</sup> experienced by the Companies, which are only a part of the total
17		generation costs, may have increased more or less than these escalations to rates.
18		If fuel costs actually increased more from 1999 to 2008 than the total of these
19		escalations, then the Companies' calculated 2008 fuel "rate" will have understated
20		2008 fuel costs. One result is that it will appear that fuel costs are increasing
21		more in 2009 than they actually are, and the FAC adjustment will be larger than if

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> I will adopt Mr. Nelson's convention hereinafter of using "fuel clause" and "fuel costs" to refer to all costs which are allowed in the FAC

1		the 2008 actual fuel cost number had been used. Another result will be that the
2		calculated base generation amount will be larger. Although the Companies have
3		stated that in future years fuel cost collection will be trued up to actual fuel costs
4		in the FAC, they would still have a higher base generation rate and higher total
5		generation revenue.
б		
7	Q23.	WOULD A MISSTATEMENT OF THE 2008 STARTING POINT FOR FUEL
8		COSTS BE SIGNIFICANT?
9	A23.	Certainly. If the Company has understated the fuel costs in the 2008 SSO price,
10		and this is used as the basis for the adjustment to the SSO price in the MRO, the
11		portion of the MRO priced on SSO generation will be overpriced for 2009.
12		
13		This may be made clearer with a simple example. Let us start with a most recent
14		SSO rate of 4.5 cents/kwh. In this example the Companies methodology produces
15		a FAC rate of 2.5 cents, leaving a base generation rate of 2 cents. Further assume
16		that the estimate of FAC costs for 2009 is 3.5 cents, and this estimate is correct,
17		so no true-up will be needed. Customers will pay 3.5 cents plus 2 cents in 2009,
18		or 5.5 cents. If the actual FAC costs in 2008 had been 3 cents, the base generation
19		rate would have been 1.5 cents. In 2009 customers would pay the correct 3.5 cent
20		generation rate plus the base generation rate of 1.5 cents, for a total of 5 cents -
<b>2</b> 1		one/half a cent less for every kWh.

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1	Q24.	HOW WILL THE PROPOSED FAC ADJUSTMENTS WORK IN 2009-2011?
2	A24.	AEP-Ohio witness Mr. Roush testifies that the FAC will be trued up to costs in
3		the future. Since the Companies apparently propose not to apply carrying charges
4		to over-collections through the FAC, it is important to set the initial FAC as
5		accurately as possible. An initial overstatement of FAC costs will cause
6		customers to not receive full compensation for any overpayment by them during
7		2009. The apparent lack of symmetry in the Companies' proposal regarding
8		carrying charges on the true-up is a problem that will be discussed later.
9		
10	Q25.	DO WE KNOW WHAT ACTUAL FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER COSTS
11		WILL BE IN 2008?
12	A25.	No. The Companies have presented no information about actual costs to date, or
13		an estimate for the entire 2008 year. They should be required to make such an
14		estimate.
15		
16	IV.	ANALYSIS OF PROJECTED MARKET PRICES OF POWER (OR
17		ELECTRICITY)
18	Q26.	PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COMPANIES' ESTIMATES OF MARKET-
19		BASED POWER PRICES.
20	A26.	The Companies produce price estimates for each general rate category,
21		residential, commercial, and industrial, for both CSPCO and OPCO. These all
22		use the same values for the basic energy costs, for "Retail Administration", and

1 Ancillary Services, and class-differentiated numbers for other components of the 2 market cost.

4 There appears to be an error in the OPCO line loss values. For CSPCO, the cost 5 of line losses was greatest for the residential class, and least for the industrial 6 class. This is usually true, since the residential class is served at secondary line 7 voltage and the other classes take some service at higher line voltages. However, 8 in the table on p. 13 of Mr. Baker's testimony, for OPCO line losses are \$1.28 for 9 residential, \$4.46 for commercial, and \$2.49 for industrial. In my subsequent 10 analysis and table, I believe the Companies numbers should have been \$4.46 for 11 residential, \$2.49 for commercial, and \$1.28 for industrial and I have made 12 adjustments to these corrected numbers. I will adjust these line losses in Table 3.

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#### 14 027. DO THE COMPANIES' ESTIMATES OVERSTATE THE PROJECTED

#### 15

- MARKET COST (OR PRICE) OF POWER FOR THE ESP PERIOD?
- 16 A27. Yes. The data used by the Companies to estimate the fundamental forward energy price, "ATC Swap" does not reflect current market conditions and current 17
- 18 forward energy prices. In addition, the Companies' estimate appears to have
- 19 overstated some of the "adders" to the ATC Swap price, resulting in an
- 20 overstatement of the market price.

# 1 *Q28. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WITH THE DATA UTILIZED TO CALCULATE* 2 *THE ATC SWAP*?

3 A28. The Companies testify that they have utilized forward price data from the first 4 week of the first three quarters of 2008. Mr. Baker claims that this "...would 5 provide the most accurate representation of recent market conditions..." (Baker, 6 p. 15) The Companies, however, have provided no evidence that this is "the most 7 accurate representation", or even that it is "an accurate representation" of recent 8 or more importantly of current market conditions. I agree with Mr. Baker that the 9 price of energy changes on a daily basis, and that utilizing one day is not the best 10 way to judge the current market. For the last three months, oil, natural gas, coal, 11 and forward energy prices have fallen significantly. While this was not known to 12 the Companies at the time of their filing, we now have more recent data, including 13 data from the first week of the fourth quarter.

14

# 15 Q29. WHAT DOES MORE RECENT FORWARD PRICE DATA REVEAL?

Forward prices have dropped dramatically in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Since the Companies 16 A29. 17 have used prices from the first week of each quarter, when I refer to price data it 18 will continue to refer to the first week of a quarter. The Companies' estimate of 19 the ATC Swap price was \$57.84 for both CSPCO and OPCO. I have done an 20 analysis of how forward market prices for 2009-2011 at the PJM West Hub have 21 changed from the first week of the first three quarters of 2008 to the fourth quarter 22 of 2008. This data is shown in Table 1 below. I used PJM West Hub data 23 because La Capra Associates gets forward price data from the Intercontinental

Exchange ("ICE"), which does not report the Dayton Hub. This data shows that forward prices for 2009 alone have dropped by more than 17% from the three guarter average to the fourth quarter.

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	2009 PJM Western Hub Real Time All Hours Forward								
					Prices				
						3 Q	uarters		
Quarter 1		Qu	arter 2	Qı	arter 3	A	/erage	Qu	arter 4
\$	67.97	\$	74.32	\$	<del>9</del> 4.75	\$	79.01	\$	65.28

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7 The basis difference between PJM West and AEP will be different from the 8 difference between Dayton and AEP. Rather than doing an independent analysis 9 of the basis difference between PJM West and the AEP zone, I used the PJM 10 West data to adjust the Companies' data. I assumed that the Dayton Hub data 11 changed from the three quarter average to the fourth quarter by the same percentage as the PJM West data for 2009 to 2011 that I reviewed.<sup>9</sup> Actual PJM 12 13 data on real-time LMPs shows that Dayton Hub and PJM West prices generally move together. The graph below illustrates this with all hours data for 2008. My 14 updated estimates of the same forward energy only price are \$49.82. 15

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The decrease from the 3 quarter average to the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter was somewhat less when 2010 and 2011 are taken into account, and is the number we used to adjust the Companies' energy price.



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- 1 the decrease in electric market prices that we observe in the October data is more
- 2 likely to continue than to reverse.

#### TABLE 2

# NYMEX FUTURE GAS PRICES

Delivery		Transaction
<u>Month</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Date</u>
Jan '09	\$10.2 <b>370</b>	7/28/2008
Feb '09	\$10.3740	7/28/2008
Mar <b>'</b> 09	\$10.0740	7/28/2008
Apr '0 <del>9</del>	\$9.3660	7/28/2008
May '09	\$9.2700	7/28/2008
Jun '09	\$9.3530	7/28/2008
Jul '09	\$9.4400	7/28/2008
Aug '09	\$9.5100	7/28/2008
Sep '09	\$9.4520	7/25/2008
Oct '09	\$9.6200	7/28/2008
Nov '09	\$9.8420	7/25/2008
Dec '09	\$10.1970	7/25/2008
Average	<b>\$9.7279</b>	
Delivory		Tropportion
Month	Last	Dete
		<u>Dale</u>
San 09	20.0000 ¢c 7090	10/27/2008
red U9	\$6.7080 ¢c.cc50	10/27/2008
Iviar 109	\$6.565U	10/27/2008
Apr U9	\$6.6000	10/27/2008
May '09	\$6.6750	10/27/2008
Jun '09	\$6.8050	10/27/2008
Jul '09	\$6.9350	10/27/2008
Aug '09	\$7.0010	10/27/2008
Sep '09	\$6.9800	10/27/2008
Oct '09	\$7.1240	10/27/2008
Nov '09	\$7.4220	10/27/2008
Dec <b>'09</b>	\$7.7850	10/27/2008
Average	\$6.9467	

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1		Moreover, if the Companies do hold a competitive solicitation in the near future,
2		bidders would rely on the most recent forward data, in order to determine their
3		bids. Bidders normally plan to hedge such future sales, which means that current
4		forward prices, not what prices were three or six or nine months ago, are most
5		relevant to the prices that would be offered in response to a competitive
6		solicitation.
7		
8	<b>Q</b> 31.	WHAT OTHER ELEMENTS IN THE COMPANIES' MARKET PRICE
9		ESTIMATES ARE ALSO OVERSTATED AND WHY?
10	<i>A31</i> .	The estimate of the cost of power purchased through a competitive bid include
11		elements in addition to the forward energy price, as noted earlier in my testimony.
12		There are several elements included in the Companies' market price that are
13		overstated because they are based upon the basic forward energy price, the ATC
14		Swap value, that is now much lower than the number Mr. Baker was using a basis
15		for the market price. The elements that depend upon the forward energy price
16		include the "load shape and following" value <sup>10</sup> , and losses. I have adjusted these
17		elements by my adjustment to the energy price. In addition, I believe that what
18		are described by the Companies as the retail administration charge and the
19		transaction risk adder are overstated.
20		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> I accepted the Companies' load following adjustments as the basis for my adjustments, but the Companies' loss following adjustment for the CSPCO residential class seems somewhat high.

<i>Q32</i> .	WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT THE RETAIL ADMINISTRATION
	CHARGE THAT IS INCLUDED IN THE COMPANIES ESTIMATE OF
	MARKET PRICE?
A32.	According to Mr. Baker, a retail administration charge would be included in a bid
	price to provide full requirements service. It is expected that costs in this
	category cover marketing, personnel, overheads and profits related to selling
	power into MRO auction. The Company uses \$5/MWH for this cost. This
	estimate of a retail margin is likely to overstate the costs that would apply to a
	wholesale transaction, as the supplier would not be selling to specific customers
	but to the Companies. It is unlikely that marketing and overhead costs would be
	more than \$1.00/MWH. I base this conclusion on the calculation that a charge of
	\$1.00/MWH would result in the supplier recovering more than \$2 million for
	CSPCO alone in 2009. I think it is very unlikely that a supplier would need more
	than these amounts for the marketing and overhead function.
	This \$5.00 per MWH adder is also supposed to include the suppliers' profit
	margin. I have seen estimates of profit margins that run from \$1 to \$2/MWH.
	This suggests that the costs that are reflected in "retail administration", in total,
	may be from \$2 to \$3/MWH. <sup>11</sup>
	Q32.

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I will reflect the retail administration value as 0 and includes these dollars under transactions costs.

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1	Q33.	WHAT ABOUT MR. BAKER'S STATEMENT THAT THE STATE OF
2		CONNECTICUT INCLUDES A RANGE OF \$5/MWH TO \$10/MWH FOR
3		THIS CHARGE?
4	A33.	The Connecticut charges that he cites do not reflect supplier costs. In Connecticut
5		the utilities hold an actual market solicitation for the power for their Standard
6		Service load. Connecticut has no reason to and does not make any estimates as to
7		the cost components of bids in standard service offer auctions. What Mr. Baker
8		may be referring to is a charge in Connecticut that is an adder to the wholesale
9		power costs of the supplier by the utilities. The purpose was "increased
10		wholesale rates to reflect a proxy for the retail price." (Connecticut Docket no.
11		03-07-01) Such an increase reflects costs of retail suppliers to market service to
12		customers. They are not properly a part of wholesale costs.
13		
14	Q34.	MR. BAKER ALSO INCLUDES IN THE MARKET PRICE A COMPONENT
15		CALLED "TRANSACTION RISK" WHICH VARIES BY UTILITY AND BY
16		CUSTOMER CLASS FROM \$4.45 TO \$5.47 PER MWH. WHAT IS THIS
17		COST COMPONENT SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT AND IS THIS A
18		REASONABLE ESTIMATE OF THOSE COSTS?
19	A34.	This transaction risk component is supposed to reflect a number of risks,
20		including commodity price risk, migration risk, and credit risks described by Mr.
21		Baker (Baker, p. 11). While these appear in name to be legitimate risks, further
22		scrutiny shows that such risks will not impose significant costs on bidders.
23		Commodity price risk is always a concern in retail market transactions since the

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1		individual customer transactions are small. In a wholesale transaction for power
2		offered through a competitive bid, however, the commodity price risk to the
3		supplier can be minimized through the use of forward purchasing. The supplier
4		will bear very little risk if it hedges its obligations. Migration risk appears to be
5		almost non-existent, especially in the early years, as the blending of a below
6		market price of SSO with the MRO market price results in a price below market.
7		Lastly, the credit risk concern is again nearly non-existent with a regulated utility
8		counterparty procuring power under a Commission approved process that is
9		implementing legislative mandates.
10		
11	Q35.	WHAT WOULD YOU ESTIMATE TO BE THE ADJUSTMENT THAT
12		WOULD BE ADEQUATE TO RECOVER THESE VARIOUS COSTS FOR
13		<b>RETAIL ADMINISTRATION AND TRANSACTION RISK?</b>
14	A35.	I believe that a liberal estimate of the total of these two adders together is from \$4
15		to \$5 per MWH. This is the value that I have included in my alternative market
16		price, under the one label, Transaction risk adder, as the costs included in the two
17		categories are not easily distinguishable. It results in reducing the market price
18		estimates by about \$6 per MWH.

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1	Q36.	WHAT IS THE FULL RESULT OF YOUR MODIFICATIONS TO THE
2		MARKET PRICE THAT IS USED IN BOTH THE ESP AND THE MRO?
3	A36.	My estimates of updated and corrected market prices are \$73.94 for CSPCO and
4		\$71.07 for OPCO. These are lower than the Companies prices by about 16%.
5		The components of this estimate are shown in Table 3 below.

# TABLE 3

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# UPDATED, REVISED MARKET BASED POWER PRICES

3

CSP Estimated Competitive Electric Retail Service Price for			
Cost Components	CSP Residential	CSP Commercial	CSP Industrial
ATC Simple Swap	\$49.82	\$49.82	\$49.82
Basis	\$0.51	\$0.51	\$0.51
Load Shape and Following	\$8.26	\$4.59	\$1.99
Retail Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ancillary Services	\$1.19	\$1.19	\$1.19
Losses	\$3.46	\$2.18	\$0.78
PJM Capacity Requirements	\$15.78	\$11.80	\$7.86
ARR Credit	(\$2.73)	(\$2.05)	(\$1.40)
Transaction Risk Adder	\$5.47	\$4.93	\$4.45
Class Total	\$81.76	\$72.97	\$65.20
Class Weight	34%	40%	26%
CSP Total		\$73.94	

<b>OPEstimated</b> Comp		Representation	
Cost Components	OP Residential	OP Commercial	OP Industrial
ATC Simple Swap	\$49.82	\$49.82	\$49.82
Basis	\$0.51	\$0.51	\$0.51
Load Shape and Following	\$6.60	\$5.22	\$2.22
Retail Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ancillary Services	\$1.19	\$1.19	\$1.19
Losses	\$3.85	\$2.15	\$1.10
PJM Capacity Requirements	\$13.47	\$12.51	\$8.15
ARR Credit	(\$2.42)	(\$2.16)	(\$1.41)
Transaction Risk Adder	\$5.07	\$5.13	\$4.58
Class Total	\$78.08	\$74.37	\$66.17
Class Weight	26%	22%	52%
OP Total		\$71.07	

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1	Q37.	IF FUEL AND PURCHASED POWER COSTS HAVE BOTH DECREASED
2		SINCE THE COMPANIES' FILING, SHOULD FUEL AND PURCHASED
3		POWER COSTS INCLUDED IN THE FAC ALSO HAVE DECREASED?
4	A37.	Yes. Another OCC witness, Ms. Emily Medine, testifies regarding decreases in
5		the Companies' costs. I believe the Companies should provide an updated
6		estimate of their 2009 FAC costs in order to set the rate as accurately as possible.
7		
8	V.	COMPARISON OF ESP AND MRO
9	Q38.	PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE ESP AND THE MRO SHOULD BE
10		COMPARED.
11	A38.	The full cost to customers of the two plans should be compared, producing total
12		dollar and percentage differences in costs. Opinions about additional features of
13		one plan versus the other should then be considered to determine if features
14		justify the cost differences.
15		
16	Q39.	HOW DID MR. BAKER COMPARE THE ESP AND THE MRO?
17	A39.	The deferral of costs under the ESP makes the initial three years of rates lower
18		than the undeferred costs under the MRO. However, the Company claims that the
19		ESP would be more favorable than the MRO even without the deferral. (Baker
20		testimony <sup>12</sup> , p. 16) As evidence that the ESP is more favorable than the MRO,
21		Mr. Baker presents a table in Exhibit JCB-2 that does not include full generation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Mr. Baker states than Exhibit JCB-2 demonstrates that the ESP is more favorable. This exhibit does not reflect the impact of deferrals.

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1		costs. He includes the cost of market-based power, the POLR charge, and
2		Incremental Environmental charges under both options, and additional non-FAC
3		generation and distribution cost increases under the ESP. However, he does not
4		include the cost of the non-market-based power under either option. Even though
5		the price of non-market-based power is the same, the Companies include more
6		non-market-based power in the ESP option (95% in 2009, 90% in 2010 and 85%
7		in 2011) than they include in the MRO option (90% in 2009, 80% in 2010 and
8		70% in 2011).
9		
10	Q40.	DO YOU THINK THE COMPANIES HAVE PORTRAYED ALL ASPECTS
11		<b>OF GENERATION COSTS CORRECTLY?</b>
12	A40.	No. The computations of total customer costs and rate increases shown on Data
13		Response Staff 10-1 show the Non FAC generation cost increasing each year.
14		However, the ESP is supposed to have less SSO power each year. This results in
15		the Companies paying themselves a price than has increased much more than the
16		ostensible 3% increase for the non FAC portion of generation each year. This
17		would not be allowed for the SSO power blended into the MRO. I have not
18		corrected this in my portrayal of the full costs of the two options as proposed by
19		the Companies, but I do address then when I modify the Companies proposals.
1.7		

# Q41. HAVE YOU PREPARED A FULL COMPARISON OF THE PROPOSED MRO AND THE ESP?

3 A41. Yes. First I simply added the cost of SSO power to the costs included in Exhibit 4 JCB-2, based on the Companies' estimates of the both the market prices and the 5 SSO prices. This complete version of Exhibit JCB-2 is found in my LS Exhibit 1. 6 LS Exhibit 1 shows that without any deferrals, for the period 2009 through 2011 7 CSPCO customers would pay \$185 million more and OPCO customers \$220 8 million more for the total cost of the ESP as proposed by the Companies than for 9 the total costs of the MRO. This is due primarily to the additional non-FAC 10 increases and the additional distribution increases in the ESP.

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#### 12 Q42. HOW DID YOU CALCULATE THE COST OF SSO POWER?

13 A42. I started with the Companies' values for generation costs in 2009, found on Data 14 Response Staff 10-1. This portrays generation charges to customers under the 15 Companies' proposal. Generation charges are separated into Non FAC, the 16 increase in Non FAC, FAC, and the increase to FAC. The cost of market based 17 power is not shown separately but is included in the FAC costs. This table does 18 not reflect what the Companies view as their full generation cost, because some 19 generation costs are being deferred. Exhibit JCB-2 shows the Companies 20 estimates of market based power costs. In order to determine the price for the 21 SSO portion of generation costs, I first assumed that the Companies had 22 calculated the base portion of the SSO correct. I addressed the amount of SSO 23 costs in the FAC by subtracting the market based power costs, and then adding in

1		the deferrals. This indicates what the Companies indicate they will pay
2		themselves for SSO power for the 95% of their load that will be supplied by SSO
3		power in 2009.
4		
5		In the MRO, the Companies will be purchasing less SSO power and more market
6		based power, and this will be reflected in the full cost of generation. Again, I
7		used the Companies' values for the cost of market based power. For the SSO
8		portion, I assumed that costs would be less because less SSO power was included
9		in the blend. Essentially I used the estimate of the per MWH price of SSO power
10		based on the Companies numbers, and applied this to the lower volumes which
11		would be acquired at SSO prices.
12		
13	VI.	OTHER ISSUES REGARDING THE ESP
14	Q43.	ASIDE FROM THE CALCULATION OF THE FAC AND THE FAC
15		ADJUSTMENT, ARE THE COMPANIES' REQUESTS ALL CONSISTENT
16		WITH REGULATORY POLICY?
17	A43.	I do not think that they are. The starting point for the MRO and the ESP is clearly
18		
		the most recent SSO price. To grant the Companies increases to these prices for
19		the most recent SSO price. To grant the Companies increases to these prices for specific investments implies that 1) either the Companies do not have enough
19 20		the most recent SSO price. To grant the Companies increases to these prices for specific investments implies that 1) either the Companies do not have enough earnings to pay for these investments or that 2) the Companies will not make
19 20 21		<ul> <li>the most recent SSO price. To grant the Companies increases to these prices for</li> <li>specific investments implies that 1) either the Companies do not have enough</li> <li>earnings to pay for these investments or that 2) the Companies will not make</li> <li>these investments without additional revenues and they are investments which are</li> </ul>
19 20 21 22		the most recent SSO price. To grant the Companies increases to these prices for specific investments implies that 1) either the Companies do not have enough earnings to pay for these investments or that 2) the Companies will not make these investments without additional revenues and they are investments which are in the public interest. With regard to the first, there has been no indication that

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1		charges on the incremental environmental investments do not seem to pass these
2		criteria, and I have removed them. I have also removed the increase to the non
3		FAC generation costs as well as some of the proposed distribution increase for the
4		same reason.
5		
6	Q44.	ARE THERE OTHER PROBLEMATIC ISSUES WITH REGARD TO THE
7		PROPOSED ESPS?
8	A44.	Yes, there are a number of additional issues.
9		• There are several problems with proposed generation charges.
10		• The carrying charges on 2001 – 2008 incremental capital investment are
11		not justified, and the amount of deferrals resulting from the carrying costs
12		on environmental investments may have been misstated.
13		• The proposed POLR charges are not justified.
14		• The entire deferral concept is a problem,
15		• The inclusion of an automatic increase to distribution rates under the ESP
16		is a problem.
17		• The fact that the Companies propose to treat distribution customers
18		differently if the Commission selects the ESP over the MRO is a problem.
19		
20	Q45.	WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS WITH THE PROPOSED GENERATION
21		CHARGES?
22	A45.	I think that the proposed FAC escalation of the non-FAC generation charges is
23		unreasonable. The estimate of the FAC is clearly too high, based, as was the

1	market price estimate, on outdated fuel and purchased power costs. The lack of
2	carrying charge for any possible over-recovery of costs in the proposed FAC
3	adjustment mechanism is a problem, particularly since if the FAC is not reduced
4	enough to reflect actual 2009 fuel and power costs, customers will most likely end
5	up overpaying. The lack of a fully fleshed out FAC tariff with formulae and
6	definitions is a problem, as we cannot determine the interaction between FAC
7	collections and deferrals without knowing how the true-up and carrying charges
8	will work.
9	
10	There is no basis to increase the non-FAC portion of the generation charge in the
11	ESP. Senate Bill 221 clearly does not allow such an increase in the case of an
12	MRO. The only adjustments under an MRO that are allowed to the prior SSO
13	price are those that can be included in an FAC, and these are all cost-based. The
14	major difference between the proposed ESP and an MRO is that the ESP includes
15	only half the amount of market-based power that is in the MRO. This does not
16	seem to be justification for an additional increase to the SSO price, and even an
17	additional annual increase. It is clear there is no cost basis for the charge and no
18	cost basis for the different treatment of the non-FAC generation rate in the ESP
19	and the MRO. Even part of the Companies' rationale for the non-FAC generation
20	charge, "customers are familiar with that" <sup>13</sup> is misleading. Customers will not
21	be experiencing a continued increase of 3% (if they are lucky enough to reside in
22	CSPCO's territory rather than in OPCO's territory), but a total increase of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Deposition of J. Craig Baker, October 25, 2008 at 56.

1		approximately 15% per year. This increase is much higher than customers have
2		been accustomed to. Another irrational aspect to this rate increase is that, without
3		the deferral, it would result in higher rate increases in OPCO territory than in
4		CSPCO territory. There is no basis to expect that costs will increase in one
5		territory by 4% more than in the other.
6		
7	Q46.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE CARRYING CHARGES ON 2001-2008
8		INCREMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES ARE
9		NOT JUSTIFIED?
10	A46.	This increase to rates does not meet the criteria for inclusion that I discussed on p.
11		29. The Companies have not demonstrated that they have not had enough
12		earnings to make these investments or that they would not have made them
13		without additional rate revenues, since they have already made these investments.
14		Moreover stockholders will reap the benefits over the lives of these investments.
15		
16	<b>Q</b> 47.	WHAT IS THE POSSIBLE MISSTATEMENT OF DEFERRALS
17		ASSOCIATED WITH THE CARRYING COSTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL
18		INVESTMENTS?
1 <b>9</b>	A47.	The Companies have requested recovery of large amounts of carrying costs on
20		environmental investments made from 2001 to 2008. Mr. Nelson reports
21		jurisdictional revenue requirements of 2001 to 2008 of \$ 84 million for OPCO
22		and \$26 million for CSPCO. Mr. Baker includes these costs as part of the cost of
23		the ESPs for 2009, 2010, and 2011 in his Exhibit JCB-2. However, Mr. Roush,

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1		calculating revenue requirements, shows these values as non-FAC costs only in
2		the year 2009. It is not clear from the exhibits of Mr. Roush or Mr. Assante how
3		the 2010 and 2011 carrying costs on past environmental investments have been
4		treated. If the Companies' presentation does not reflect these dollars that the
5		Companies are requesting in their computation of deferral amounts, the actual
6		deferrals could turn out to be higher than the Companies have indicated by
7		hundreds of millions of dollars. This question must be addressed in discovery,
8		depositions, and possibly supplemental testimony.
9		
10	Q48.	WHAT ARE YOUR OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED POLR CHARGE?
11	A48.	The Companies are requesting an additional \$508 million from ratepayers for
12		compensation for a cost that they are highly unlikely to incur. In fact, the major
13		reason for the request is the Companies' claim that the legislature or regulators
14		may change an existing element of S.B. 221, should a municipal aggregation
15		return to SSO service when market prices are higher than the cost of SSO service.
16		There are no current municipal aggregations in their territory; forward price
17		information makes it questionable that there will be in the near future; and there
18		would have to be major turnarounds in prices for market prices to climb above
1 <b>9</b>		SSO prices. Even though I have projected lower market prices than the
20		Companies, market prices remain below SSO prices.
21		
22		The most unreasonable aspect of this request is that it is unnecessary. If the
23		Companies had to purchase more power to serve returning customers, at any

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1		price, this cost would automatically be reflected in the FAC and be recovered
2		from all non-shopping customers, including those that had returned to SSO
3		service. The Companies are currently collecting only 1 mil per kWh in a POLR
4		charge, and there has been no indication that they have needed even this amount
5		to cover costs.
6		
7		The Companies admit that they have estimated the cost that they might have to
8		pay for options because of the POLR obligation, but that they might not pay this
9		cost. Given the unlikelihood of any need for such charge, I suggest that such a
10		cost would be deemed imprudent.
11		
12	Q49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS
12 13	Q49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS A PROBLEM?
12 13 14	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS         A PROBLEM?         The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional
12 13 14 15	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL ISA PROBLEM?The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional\$461.2 million in carrying costs in the years 2012- 2018 (Assante Exhibit LVA-
12 13 14 15 16	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS A PROBLEM? The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional \$461.2 million in carrying costs in the years 2012- 2018 (Assante Exhibit LVA- 1). The increment of these costs to future ratepayers will mean that either they
12 13 14 15 16 17	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS A PROBLEM? The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional \$461.2 million in carrying costs in the years 2012- 2018 (Assante Exhibit LVA- 1). The increment of these costs to future ratepayers will mean that either they will pay more even if all customers are then paying market prices, or it will be
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS A PROBLEM? The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional \$461.2 million in carrying costs in the years 2012- 2018 (Assante Exhibit LVA- 1). The increment of these costs to future ratepayers will mean that either they will pay more even if all customers are then paying market prices, or it will be another reason proffered in the future to not move to a competitive market for
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS A PROBLEM? The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional \$461.2 million in carrying costs in the years 2012- 2018 (Assante Exhibit LVA- 1). The increment of these costs to future ratepayers will mean that either they will pay more even if all customers are then paying market prices, or it will be another reason proffered in the future to not move to a competitive market for generation. In addition, it is unreasonable to charge these carrying costs to
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL IS A PROBLEM? The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional \$461.2 million in carrying costs in the years 2012- 2018 (Assante Exhibit LVA- 1). The increment of these costs to future ratepayers will mean that either they will pay more even if all customers are then paying market prices, or it will be another reason proffered in the future to not move to a competitive market for generation. In addition, it is unreasonable to charge these carrying costs to customers who are currently shopping and thus will not receive the "benefit" of
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q49. A49.	WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THE OFFERED PHASE-IN AND DEFERRAL ISA PROBLEM?The phase-in and deferral will result in customers paying a projected additional\$461.2 million in carrying costs in the years 2012- 2018 (Assante Exhibit LVA-1). The increment of these costs to future ratepayers will mean that either theywill pay more even if all customers are then paying market prices, or it will beanother reason proffered in the future to not move to a competitive market forgeneration. In addition, it is unreasonable to charge these carrying costs tocustomers who are currently shopping and thus will not receive the "benefit" ofthese deferrals. Moreover setting the carrying costs at the cost of capital is not

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1		approved by the Commission, the carrying costs should be set at the long term
2		cost of debt.
3		
4	Q50.	ALTHOUGH YOU OBJECT TO THE PHASE-IN, IF A PHASE IN WAS
5		APPROPRIATE, WHY WOULD THE COMPANIES NOT PHASE-IN RATE
6		INCREASES UNDER THE MRO OPTION?
7	A50.	According to Mr. Baker, "such a phase-in would be incompatible with a market
8		pricing regime." (Baker, p.16) Since the MROs are not yet "market priced", it is
9		not clear that phasing in would be inappropriate. Offering it as a benefit only
10		under the ESPs seems designed simply to make the ESPs look more favorable
11		than the MROs since the price under an ESP would appear artificially lower as
12		compared to the MRO.
13		
14	Q51.	HAS THE AUTOMATIC DISTRIBUTION RATE INCREASE BEEN
15		JUST[FIED?
16	A51.	No. AEP proposes annual increases to its distribution rates over the three-year
17		term of its ESP to support a gridSMART program and its Enhanced Service
18		Reliability Plan ("ESRP") <sup>14</sup> . The Companies have demonstrated neither that the
19		reliability plan will be appropriately monitored, nor that it will increase reliability,
20		nor that it consists fully of new expenditures. The ESRP is not structured as an
21		"incentive plan", as contemplated by R.C. 4928.143(B)(2)(h), because the
22		requested distribution increase is not dependent upon the Company's reliability

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> The gridSMART component is proposed only for CSP.

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1		performance. In fact, there is no penalty for the Company's failure to meet any
2		reliability targets as a result of the implementation of the ESRP. The plan is
3		devoid of any goals or milestones, making it difficult to judge the reasonableness
4		of the program. Moreover, it appears that AEP's proposed ESRP consists of
5		routine distribution reliability matters, the costs of which are already being
6		collected in rates. My comments reflect OCC's position, which is explained fully
7		in the testimony of OCC Witness Cleaver. AEP has not born the burden of
8		proving that significant investment, beyond what is currently being done, is
9		necessary for distribution reliability enhancement. OCC does not support AEP's
10		proposed annual distribution rate increase of approximately 4.06% for CSP that
11		pertains to the Enhanced Service Reliability Program ("ESRP") nor does OCC
12		support the proposed annual six and one-half percent distribution rate increase for
13		OP that is dedicated solely to the ESRP.
14		
15	Q52.	PLEASE DISCUSS THE REMAINING COSTS THAT ARE INTENDED TO
16		BE RECOVERED IN THE AUTOMATIC DISTRIBUTION INCREASE.
17	A52.	The proposed distribution increase in the ESP is also intended to recover
18		expenditures on an initiative to develop an intelligent distribution/transmission
1 <b>9</b>		network, called gridSMART. OCC supports part of these initiative, providing
20		there is a more detailed project plan and requirements document involving budget,

- 21 resource allocations and operating cost projections for the full 7-10 year
- 22 implementation period and beyond, along with a specific set of performance
- 23 measures and metrics as recommended by OCC witness Finamore. The

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1		gridSMART distribution costs which the OCC supports result in an approximate
2		2.94% distribution increase to CSP, are acceptable as explained in the testimony
3		of Witness Finamore. I have reflected these in LS Exhibit 3 and Exhibit 4.
4		
5	Q53.	PLEASE DISCUSS THIS INCREASE TO DISTRIBUTION RATES.
6	A53.	Distribution rates would increase automatically each year of the ESP. Mr. Baker
7		describes this as "single issue rate making for distribution service." (Baker, p. 17)
8		It is not the same as typical single issue rate making, which would examine the
9		costs of a single issue, and base an increment to rates on an increment to costs.
10		This is simply an arbitrary 3% and 7% increase which is supposed to "enable the
11		Companies to proceed now with their gridSMART and enhanced distribution
12		reliability initiatives."
13		
14	Q54.	HOW ARE CUSTOMERS TREATED DIFFERENTLY UNDER THE ESP
15		AND THE MRO OPTION?
16	A54.	In addition to the deferral issue discussed above, there are a number of
17		differences, which the Companies portray as advantages in the ESPs. These
18		include stockholder support for low-income and economic development, only
19		under the ESPs. Another difference is that the Companies include in the ESP an
20		automatic increase to distribution rates.
21		

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1	Q55.	DO YOU THINK THE COMPANIES HAVE PORTRAYED ALL ASPECTS
2		OF GENERATION COSTS CORRECTLY IN THE MRO?
3	A55.	No. The computations of total customer costs and rate increases shown on Data
4		Response Staff 10-1 show the Non FAC generation cost increasing each year.
5		However, the ESP is supposed to have less SSO power each year. This results in
6		the Companies paying themselves a price than has increased much more than the
7		ostensible 3% increase for the non FAC portion of generation each year. This
8		would not be allowed for the SSO power blended into the MRO. If this is an error
9		in the MRO computations, as it seems to be, it has slightly overstated the cost of
10		the MRO.
11		
12	Q56.	CAN YOU SUMMARIZE THE RESULTS ON THE COMPARISON OF THE
13		ESPS AND THE MROS OF THE CHANGES THAT YOU ARE
14		RECOMMENDING?
15	A56.	Yes. On LS Exhibit 2 I have summarized the impact on total costs based on:
16		the lower market prices based on the updating and modifications that I
17		have made to the Companies' market prices,
18		the reduction of the base generation component as less SSO power is
1 <del>9</del>		included,
20		<ul> <li>no escalation of the base generation component,</li> </ul>
21		<ul> <li>a lower increase in the distribution rate for CSPCO, and none for OPCO:</li> </ul>
22		and
23		<ul> <li>no POLR charge.</li> </ul>

1		<ul> <li>removal of the carrying costs on the incremental environmental capital</li> </ul>
2		expenditures
3		
4		I conclude that on this basis, the ESPs as modified are slightly more favorable
5		than the MRO for CSPCO and for OPCO.
6		
7		I have also used these total costs to calculate the rate increases that will result
8		from the ESPs. These results are shown in LS Exhibit 3. The average expected
9		increase for CSPCO in 2009 will be 10.5%, 10.9% in 2010, and 11.1% in 2011.
10		The average expected increase for OPCO in 2009 will be 19.5%, 15.4% in 2010,
11		and 7.3% in 2011, with no deferrals. They could be lower if the FAC costs for
12		2009 have been overstated. Without the Companies' deferral provisions, these
13		increases could also be higher if there are significant increases in fuel and
14		purchased power costs. They could also be lower if the FAC costs for 2009 have
15		been overstated. However, with the deferral provision, such increases would
16		result in still more costs being shifted to future ratepayers and still more carrying
17		charges being borne by ratepayers.
18		
1 <b>9</b>	VII.	RECOMMENDATIONS
20	Q57.	WHAT ARE YOU RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE ESP AND

21 THE MRO OPTIONS?

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A57. I recommend that the Commission only approve an ESP if at least the following
changes are made to the Companies' proposal:

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1		• There should be no deferral provision;
2		• The FAC should be reduced to reflect more current fuel and power costs;
3		• A detailed FAC should be approved which includes carrying charges on
4		annual under or over recoveries at the same weighted average cost of long-
5		term debt;
б		• The base generation rate should not increase;
7		• No POLR charges should be allowed in the ESP;
8		• Rates should not be increased by the carrying costs on the incremental
9		environmental capital expenditures; and
10		• The distribution increase should be reduced for CSPCO and eliminated for
11		OPSCO, under conditions recommended by OCC witness Finamore.
12		There are enough apparent errors and inconsistencies in the Companies filing
13		that the ESP must be reviewed and tested during the proceeding very
14		carefully.
15		
16	Q58.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
17	A58.	Yes. However, I reserve the right to incorporate new information that may
18		subsequently become available. I also reserve the right to supplement my
19		testimony in the event that AEP Ohio submits new or corrected financial or other
20		data in connection with this proceeding.

COMPLETE COST COMPARISON OF MRO AND ESP

	Colum	bus Southern F	ower Company			Ohio Power C	ompany	
	2009	2010	2011	Total	2009	2010	2011	Total
Estimated Cost of Market Rate Option								
MWH Load to be Purchased under 10%/20%/30% MRO	2,271,512	4,543,023	6,814,535		2,815,095	5,630,189	8,445,284	
Estimated Market Price (\$/MWH)	\$88.15	588.15	\$88.15		\$85.32	\$85.32	\$85.32	
Estimated Purchase Cost of 10%/20%/30%	\$200	\$400	\$601	\$1,201	\$240	\$480	\$721	\$1,441
2001 - 2008 Incremental Environmental (90%/80%/70%)	\$23	\$21	\$18	\$62	\$78	\$67	\$59	\$202
POLR (90%/80%/70%)	597	\$87	\$76	\$260	\$55	549	\$43	\$148
Estimated Cosi of 10%/20%/30% Market Rate Option	\$321	\$508	\$695	\$1,523	\$371	\$596	\$872	\$1,789
Estimated Other Costs for 90%, 80%,70% load								
Base Non-FAC Costs	\$445	\$434	5413	\$1,292	\$512	\$568	\$562	\$1,642
Base FAC Costs	\$477	\$490	\$576	\$1,544	\$380	\$308	\$358	\$1,046
FAC Increase	\$246	\$220	\$225	\$592	\$348	\$326	\$195	\$870
Estimated Total Cost of Companies's MRO	\$1 <i>,</i> 490	\$1,653	\$1, <del>90</del> 9	\$5,052	\$1,610	\$1,799	\$1,988	\$5,347
Estimated Cost of Companies' ESP								
Estimated Purchase Cost of \$%/10%/15%	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$601	\$12D	\$240	\$350	\$721
2001 - 2008 Incremental Environmental	\$26	\$26	\$26	\$78	\$84	\$84	\$84	\$252
POLR	\$108	\$108	\$108	\$325	\$61	\$61	\$61	\$183
Annual 3%/7% non-FAC Increase	\$14	\$29	\$44	\$87	\$42	\$86	\$134	\$263
Annual 7%/6.5% Distribution Increase	\$24	\$50	\$77	\$150	\$2 <u>1</u>	\$44	\$68	\$133
Estimated Cost of Companies' ESP	\$272	\$413	\$555	\$1,240	\$328	\$515	\$707	<b>\$1,55</b> 1
Estimated Other Costs for 95%,90%, 85% load								
Base Non-FAC Costs	\$470	\$488	\$502	\$1,460	\$540	\$639	\$683	\$1,662
Base FAC Costs	\$504	\$552	\$700	\$1,755	\$401	\$347	\$435	\$1,282
FAC Increase	\$260	5248	5273	\$781	\$367	\$367	\$238	\$972
Estimated Total Cost of Companies's ESP	\$1,506	\$1,701	\$2,030	\$5,237	\$1,636	\$1,868	\$2,063	\$5,567
Estimated Benefit of Companies' ESP	(\$16)	(\$44)	(\$121)	(\$185)	(\$26)	(\$89)	(\$125)	(\$220)

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LS Exhibit 1

#### COMPARISON OF REVISED MIROS AND ESPS INCLUDING UPDATED FUEL PRICES

	Colum	bus Southern i	Power Company	r		Ohio Power (	Company	
	2009	2010	2011	Total	2009	2010	2011	Total
Estimated Cost of Market Rate Option								
MWH Load to be Purchased under 10%/20%/30% MRO	2,271,512	4,543,023	6,814,535		2,815,095	5,630,189	8,445,284	
Estimated Market Price (\$/MWH)	\$73.94	\$73.94	\$73.94		\$71.07	\$71.07	\$71.07	
Estimated Purchase Cost of 10%/20%/30%	\$168	\$338	\$504	\$1,008	\$200	\$400	\$600	\$1,200
2001 - 2008 Increme/tal Environmental (90%/80%/70%)	\$0	\$0	\$0	50	50	\$0	\$0	<b>\$</b> 0
POLR (90%/80%/70%)	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$</b> 0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Estimated Cost of 10%/20%/30% Market Rate Option	\$168	\$336	\$504	\$1,006	\$200	\$40D	<b>\$80</b> 0	\$1,200
Estimated Other Costs for 90%, 80%, 70% load								
Base Non-FAC Costs	\$445	\$409	\$371	\$1,226	\$512	\$470	\$427	\$1,408
Base FAC Costs	\$477	\$516	\$461	\$1,454	\$380	\$491	\$494	\$1,365
FAC Increase	\$246	\$220	\$225	\$692	\$348	\$326	\$196	\$870
Estimated Total Cost of Companies's MRO	\$1,337	\$1,482	\$1,561	\$4,379	\$1,439	\$1,687	\$1,717	\$4,844
Estimated Cost of Companies' ESP								
Estimated Purchase Cost of 5%/10%/15%	\$84	\$168	\$252	\$504	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$600
2001 - 2008 Incremental Environmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
POLR	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual non-FAC increase	50	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Distribution Increase	\$10	\$10	\$11	\$31	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Estimated Cost of Companies' ESP	\$ <del>9</del> 4	\$178	\$263	\$535	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$600
Estimated Other Costs for 95%,90%, 85% load								
Base Non-FAC Costs	\$470	\$450	\$451	\$1,381	\$540	\$529	\$518	\$1,587
Base FAC Costs	\$504	\$580	\$5.5 <b>9</b>	\$1,644	\$401	\$552	\$600	\$1,553
FAC increase	\$260	\$248	\$273	\$781	\$367	\$367	\$238	\$972
Estimated Total Cost of Companies's ESP	\$1,328	\$1,467	\$ <b>1</b> ,5 <b>46</b>	\$4,341	\$1,408	\$1,648	\$1,656	\$4,712
Estimated Benefit of Companies' ESP	<b>5</b> 9	\$14	\$15	\$38	\$31	\$39	\$81	\$131

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LS Exhibit 2

			-	Columb	urs Southe	ern Power Ci ested Rate Inc	ompany crease					-	
			2009				2010				102		
Cescription	Current	Non-FAC Increase	FAC hcrease	Tolai Increase	Total Bill	Non-FAC Increase	Meximum FAC Increase	Total Increase	Total Bill	Non-FAC Increase	Maximum FAC Increase	Totel Increase	Total Bill % increase
FAC Components	S004 035,556		\$147,939,877	\$147,939,677			\$247 612,870	\$247,612,870			\$273,242,516	\$273 242,516	
Adjustment to FAC Base				<b>3</b> 0			(\$16,000,000)	(\$18.000.000)			(\$17,000,000)	(\$17 (00 (00)	
Deferred FAC			\$111,709,281	\$111,709,281			<b>S</b> 0	ŝŨ			\$0	<b>S</b> O	
Reduced Market Cost Est.			(\$16.000,000)	(\$16 000 000)	-		(\$32,000,000)	(232 300,000)			(548.000.000)	(548.000,000)	
Total FAC Components	\$604,035,558	8	\$243,648,958	\$243,848,958	13.70%	8	\$199,612,870	\$199,612,870	12.60%	<b>3</b>	\$208,242,516	\$208,242,516	9.55%
Non-FAC Components Adjustment to Non-FAC Base		• •		0\$	0.00%	(\$10,000,000)		(\$10,000,000)	-0.51%	(000)000(88)		(39,100,000)	0.41%
2001 - 2008 Incremental Environmental Capital Investment		<b>05</b>		05	0 00 %	8		8	%00'0	\$			0.00%
Annual 3% Non-FAC Generation Increase	:	83		20	%00'0	<b>9</b>	•	8	0.00%	: <b>()</b>	<b>3</b> 3	09	\$000
Subtrated Non-FAC	S447,647,871	50	8	50	300°0	(\$10,000,000)	05	(\$10 000 000)	-0.51%	(000 000 63)	90	(000'000'63)	-0.41%
POLR	\$14,560.921	30	•	С\$	000%	8	N 100 N 1	<b>0</b> \$	0.00%	09	N TO A THE REPORT OF THE PARTY	- <b>03</b>	%00 <sup>0</sup> 0
Distribution	\$340,137,828	\$10,000,052		\$10,000,052	0.56%	S10,294,054		\$10,294,054	0.52%	\$10.596.699		\$10,598.099	0.49%
Energy Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction		\$13,554,675	1	\$13,554,675	0.76%	\$14,843,325		\$14,843,325	0.76%	\$9,576,500		\$9,576,500	0.44%
Transmission Cost Recovery	\$181,192,902			0\$	0.00%			85	0.00%		- - - -	05	\$000
Other*	\$191,037,658	(\$80,648,308)		(\$30,848,308)	1978 1979 1970		:	8	0.00%	\$22,800,000		\$22,800,000	1.05%
Total	\$1,778,632.736	(\$57,093,581)	\$243,648,958	\$186,555,377	10.49%	\$15,137,379	\$199,612,870	\$214,750,248	10.93%	\$33,973,199	\$208,242.510	\$242,215,715	11.11%
AS FILED	\$1.778.032.736	\$30,549,167	\$147,939,877	\$236,458.844	13,41%	\$54,955,368	\$247.612.870	\$302,568,237	15,00%	\$74,710,957	\$273,242,516	\$347,953,473	15.00%
* Includes effects of enpiring and new	r Regulatory Asset Char	ges, Expining Line 6	Extension Surcha	iges, Universal	Service Fund	Advanced Energ	14 Fund, KWh Tax,	expiring special	CONTACTS and	other miscellaner	ous items.		

LS Exhibit 3

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				Summ	any of Requ	ested Rate In	10359						
			2009				2010				2011		
Description	Current Rates	Non-FAC Increase	F.A.C Increase	Total Increase	Total Bill % Increase	Non.FAC	Maximum FAC Increase	Total Increase	Total Bill Si Increase	Nort-FAC hcrease	Maximum FAC Increase	Total Increase	Total Bill 6 Increase
FAC	\$520.967,721		866, <i>0</i> 14.485	\$68,814.488			\$207,444,793	\$207.444,763			\$237,578,113 \$	237,578,113	
Adjustment to FAC Base				<b>\$</b> 0			(\$16,000,000)	(\$16.000 000);			(\$19,000,000)	(\$19 000,000)	
Deferred FAC			\$300,082,035	\$300 082,035			\$159,251,758	S159 251,758				<b>2</b> 0	
Reduced Market Cost Est.			(\$20,000,000)	(000 000 025)			(S40.000.000)	(540 000 000)			(\$60.000.000)	(\$60,000,000)	
Total FAC Components	\$520,967,721	8	\$346,696,521	\$346,696,521	\$60.02	8	\$310 696,521	\$310,696,521	15.06%	8	\$158,578,113 \$	158,578,113	6.66%
<u>Non-FAC Components</u> Adustment to Non-FAC Base				0\$	000%	. (\$11.000 D001		(\$11 000 000)	2530 2	(\$11,000 000)	-	\$11 000 000)	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1
2001 - 2008 incrementat		:		2.5	1000		:		2000		:		
Enviroimental Capital Investment			-	<b>n</b> <b>n</b> :	6.00%	<b>3</b>		- 	*	3	:	D.	9.00 o
Annuel 7% non-FAC Generation Increase	1	20	·		0.00%	3		8	\$000	8	:	- <b>0</b> 3 -	0.00%
Subtotal Non-FAC	\$512,735,422	30	ន	80	0.00%	(\$11.000,000)	80	(\$11 000.000)	-0.53%	(\$11,000.000)	\$	211,000,0001	-0.46%
POLR	<b>5</b> 39,700,305	50	-	09	0.00%	\$		8	0.00%	<b>9</b>		30	9600 0
Distribution	\$326.2%5.130	<b>0</b> 8		0 B	0.00%	<b>9</b>	-	8	2000 2	93		80	0.00%
Energy Efficiency and Peak Demend Reduction		\$16,775.000	-	\$16.775.000	0.97%	\$17,847,250		\$17,847,250	087%	\$11,803,125		311,803,125	0.50%
Transmission Cost Recovery	\$190,538,964			5	0.00%	-		5	\$000			<b>9</b> 3	0.00%
Other*	S135,826,463	(\$27.405,030)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(\$27.105.030)	.1.57%			8	°.00%	\$15,200,000		\$15,200,000	0.64%
Total	\$1,726,034,005	(\$10.330,030)	\$345,696,521	\$336,366,491	19.49%	\$6,847,250	\$310,696,521	\$317,543,77M	15 40%	\$16,003,125	\$317,156,226 9	174,581,238	7.34%
AS FLED	\$1.726.034.005	\$157.639,504	\$66,614,486	\$224,453,990	13.00%	\$85,126,437	\$207.444,763	\$292,573,199	15.00%	\$98,881,066	\$237,578,113 \$	338,458,179	15.00%
* includes effects of expiring and new	Regulatory Asset Char	rges, Explang Line	Extension Surche	rges, Universal	Service Fund.	Advanced Energ	ly Fund, kwh Tax,	expiring special	contracts and	other miscellaned	outs items		

LS Exhibit 4

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Ohio Power Company mary of Requested Rate Increase

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the Direct Testimony of Lee Smith on behalf of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, has been served upon the following parties via regular U.S. Mail

service, postage prepaid (and a courtesy copy via electronic transmission) this 31st day of

October, 2008.

Jacqueline Lake Roberts Assistant Consumers' Counsel

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