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# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Application of Ohio )
Edison Company, The Cleveland )
Electric Illuminating Company and The )
Toledo Edison Company for Approval )
of Rider FUEL and Related Accounting )
Authority )

Case Nos. 09-21-EL-ATA 09-22-EL-AEM 09-23-EL-AAM

#### MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of Ohio Administrative Code § 4901-1-24, Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company ("Companies"), move the Commission to issue an order which protects the confidentiality of and prohibits the disclosure of certain documents filed under seal by the Companies in this docket on February 2, 2009. The documents at issue, more specifically, certain portions of the *Post-RFP Report on the Competitive Procurement for Standard Service Offer Supply* ("Report"), contain sensitive and highly proprietary detailed information about the results of a Request for Proposal ("RFP") solicitation process by which the Companies procured wholesale energy and capacity for the provision of retail electric generation service. These documents were filed under seal and separate from the remainder of the materials that comprise the information pertaining to the RFP as required by the January 30, 2009 Entry in this case. Moreover, the Companies filed, and served Parties to this Proceeding, a redacted version of the Report. The grounds for the instant Motion are more fully set out in the accompanying Memorandum in Support.

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## Respectfully submitted.

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Arthur E. Korkosz, Counsel of Record James W. Burk Mark A. Hayden Ebony L. Miller FIRSTENERGY SERVICE COMPANY 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 (330) 384-5849 (330) 384-3875 (fax) korkosza@firstenergycorp.com burkj@firstenergycorp.com haydenm@firstenergycorp.com elmiller@firstenergycorp.com

James F. Lang CALFEE, HALTER & GRISWOLD LLP 1400 KeyBank Center 800 Superior Ave. Cleveland, OH 44114 (216) 622-8200 (216) 241-0816 (fax) jlang@calfee.com

David A. Kutik JONES DAY 901 Lakeside Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 (216) 586-3939 (216) 579-0212 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANTS, OHIO EDISON COMPANY, THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, AND THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY

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### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

On February 2, 2009, the Companies filed sensitive and highly proprietary detailed information about the results of a Request for Proposal ("RFP") solicitation process by which the Companies procured wholesale energy and capacity for the provision of retail electric generation service. Specifically, the information filed under seal included pricing and quantity information pertaining to the results of the RFP. This information was filed under seal simultaneously with the filing this Motion. The documents filed under seal contain sensitive and proprietary information requiring confidential treatment. This information was filed pursuant to the January 30, 2009 Entry ("Entry") requesting that such information pertaining to the RFP be filed with this Commission. The Entry also noted that to the extent such information is considered confidential, the Companies may seek appropriate protective treatment. The Companies request such protective treatment and that the Commission maintain the confidential nature of those documents and that information.

The supply agreement which the Companies and winning bidders entered into as well as the bidding rules which govern the bidding process provide that each party in the process shall

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Entry at 5, Case No. 09-21-EL-ATA, January 30, 2009

reasonably hold in confidence and not release or disclose information furnished as part of the agreement and process. The sensitive and highly proprietary materials filed in connection with this Motion are precisely the type of materials that should be held in confidence pursuant to the supply agreement and bidding rules. Upon that basis alone, the Commission should grant the Companies' request to maintain the information under seal. Moreover, public release of the confidential information at issue would result in severe and detrimental consequences affecting potential future procurement processes, as such information, if disclosed to the public and potential bidders, would undermine the bidding process. As a result, the Companies and customers would potentially be subject to higher bid prices and recovery of such higher costs through retail rates.

A review of the documents in question also demonstrates that they comprise information that falls within the statutory characterization of a trade secret under R.C, §1333.61(D). It is established that information comprising trade secrets is exempted from the requirements of disclosure under that statutory provision. *State ex rel. The Plain Dealer v. Ohio Dept. of Ins.*, 80 Ohio St. 3d 513 (1997); 88 O. Jur. 3d, Trade Secrets § 27. Requests under the Open Records law for disclosure of the documents filed under seal in this proceeding should be rejected under Revised Code § 149.43(A)(1)(v) as records whose release is prohibited under state and federal law.

Given the highly confidential and proprietary nature of the information filed under seal, the Companies urge the Commission to grant this Motion and issue an appropriate Order or act otherwise so as to assure the nondisclosure of these sensitive materials.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Because the information submitted under seal will be available to the Commission Staff, the Staff's review may take place without the necessity of public disclosure of the confidential information.

### Respectfully submitted,

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Arthur E. Korkosz, Counsel of Record James W. Burk Mark A. Hayden Ebony L. Miller FIRSTENERGY SERVICE COMPANY 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 (330) 384-5849 (330) 384-3875 (fax) korkosza@firstenergycorp.com burkj@firstenergycorp.com haydenm@firstenergycorp.com elmiller@firstenergycorp.com

James F. Lang CALFEE, HALTER & GRISWOLD LLP 1400 KeyBank Center 800 Superior Ave. Cleveland, OH 44114 (216) 622-8200 (216) 241-0816 (fax) jlang@calfee.com

David A. Kutik JONES DAY 901 Lakeside Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 (216) 586-3939 (216) 579-0212 (fax)

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANTS, OHIO EDISON COMPANY, THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, AND THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

A copy of the foregoing was served upon the following via regular U.S. Mail, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2009. A copy was also served via electronic mail on those parties with email addresses listed below.

Duane Luckey
Assistant Attorney General
Public Utilities Section
180 E. Broad St., 12th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Duane.Luckey@puc.state.oh.us

David F. Boehm Michael L. Kurtz BOEHM, KURTZ & LOWRY 36 E. Seventh St., Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202 dboehm@bkllawfirm.com mkurtz@bkllawfirm.com

John W. Bentine
Mark S. Yurick
Matthew S. White
CHESTER, WILCOX & SAXBE LLP
65 E. State St., Suite 1000
Columbus, OH 43215-4213
jbentine@cwslaw.com
myurick@cwslaw.com
mwhite@cwslaw.com

Glenn Krassen

BRICKER & ECKLER, LLP
1375 E. Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Cleveland, OH 44114
gkrassen@bricker.com

Jeffrey L. Small
Jacqueline Lake Roberts
Terry L. Etter
OFFICE OF OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL
10 W. Broad St., Suite 1800
Columbus, OH 43215-3485
small@occ.state.oh.us
roberts@occ.state.oh.us
etter@occ.state.oh.us

Theodore S. Robinson
CITIZENS POWER
2121 Murray Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15217
robinson@citizenpower.com

Samuel C. Randazzo
Lisa M. McAlister
Joseph M. Clark
McNees, Wallace & Nurick
21 E. State St., 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-4228
sam@mwncmh.com
Imcalister@mwncmh.com
jelark@mwncmh.com

Dane Stinson

BAILEY CAVALIERI LLC

10 West Broad Street, Suite 2100

Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dane.Stinson@BaileyCavalieri.com

E. Brett Breitschwerdt
BRICKER & ECKLER, LLP
100 S. Third Street
Columbus, OH 43215
bbreitschwerdt@bricker.com

M. Howard Petricoff
Stephen Howard
VORYS, SATER, SEYMOUR & PEASE
52 E. Gay Street
P.O. Box 1008
Columbus, OH 43216-1008
Mhpetricoff@vorys.com
smhoward@vorys.com

Lance M. Keiffer
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
711 Adams Street, 2nd Floor
Toledo, OH 43624-1680
lkeiffer@co.lucas.oh.us

Garrett A. Stone
Michael K. Lavanga
Brickfield, Burchette, Ritts & Stone
1025 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW
Eighth Floor, West Tower
Washington, DC 20007-5201
E-mail: gas@bbrslaw.com
mkl@bbrslaw.com

William Gruber 2714 Leighton Road Shaker Heights, OH 44120 william.gruber@shakeronline.com Leslie A. Kovacik
CITY OF TOLEDO
420 Madison Ave., Suite 100
Toledo, OH 43604-1219
Leslie.kovacik@toledo.oh.gov

Cynthia A. Fonner
David I. Fein
CONSTELLATION ENERGY GROUP, INC.
550 W. Washington St., Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60661
Cynthia.a.fonner@constellation.com
David.fein@constellation.com

David Rinebolt
Colleen L. Mooney
231 W. Lima Street
P.O. Box 1793
Findlay, OH 45839-1793
drinebolt@aol.com
cmooney2@aol.com

Gregory H. Dunn
Robert J. Triozzi
Steven Beeler
Christopher L. Miller
Andre T. Porter
SCHOTTENSTEIN, ZOX & DUNN CO., LPA
250 West Street
Columbus, OH 43215
gdunn@szd.com
cmiller@szd.com
aporter@szd.com
aporter@szd.com

Joseph P. Meissner
THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND
1223 W. 6th Street
Cleveland, OH 44113
jpmeissn@lasclev.org

One of the Attorneys for the Companies

Man Hayden