CITIZEN POWER

Public Policy Research Education and Advocacy

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV 2009 DEC 15 AM 11:42 PUCO

1

December 14, 2009

Docketing Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Re: Case No. 09-786-EL-UNC

Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find for filing an original and (12) twelve copies of the Comments of Citizen Power, Inc.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (412) 421-7029.

Sincerely,

Theodore S. Robinson, Esquire Staff Attorney Citizen Power 2121 Murray Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Attachment

Note the control of the transformer and are an interest of the control of the transformer of the control of the

RECEIVED~DOCKEFING Lity

2009 DEC 15 AM 11: 42

# BEFORE THE PUBUC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIC

)

In the Matter of the Investigation into the Development of the Significantly Excessive Earnings Test Pursuant to S. B. 221 for Electric ) Utilities.

Case No. 09-786-EL-UNC

## **COMMENTS OF CITIZEN POWER, INC.**

Citizen Power now files comments pursuant to the schedule set out in the November 19, 2009 Entry. These comments specifically respond to the Commission Staff's recommendations number 5 and 6 for the significantly excessive earnings test.

### 5. What is the definition of "significantly in excess of the return on common

### equity"?

The Staff believes that significantly in excess should be defined as a "return on common equity of the greater of 200 basis points above the mean or in excess of 1.28 (expressed as basis points) times the standard deviation above the mean of a comparable group of companies..."<sup>1</sup> The stated purpose of using the two hundred basis points as a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the Matter of the Investigation into the Development of the Significantly Excessive Earnings Test Pursuant to S.B. 221 for Electric Utilities, Case No. 09-786-EL-UNC, Staff Recommendations at 4 (Nov. 18, 2009).

the other industries represented in the sample group, it must be determined if the specific industry faces comparable business and financial risk.

Respectfully Submitted,

] | IIII | I | M/A

Theodore S. Robinson, Esquire Staff Attorney Citizen Power 2121 Murray Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15217

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing *Comments of Citizen Power, Inc.* was served electronically or by regular U.S. Mail upon the parties of record identified below in these cases on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.

Theodore S. Robinson, Esq. Citizen Power 2121 Murray Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15217 Telephone: (412) 421-7029 FAX: (412) 421-6162

#### SERVICE LIST

David C. Rinebolt Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy 231 West Lima St. PO Box 1793 Findlay, OH 45839-1793

Marvin Resnik American Electric Power Serv Corp. 1 Riverside Plaza, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, OH 43215

Elizabeth H. Watts Duke Energy Ohio Inc. 139 Fourth Street 25 Atrium II PO Box 960 Cincinnati, OH 45202-0960 Michael E. Idzkowski Ohio Consumer Counsel 10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800 Columbus, OH 43215-3485

Michael Kurtz Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street, Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202

Thomas O'Brien Bricker & Eckler, LLP 100 South Third Street Columbus, OH 43215

Arthur Korkosz First Energy, Senior Attorney 76 South Main Street Legal Dept., 18<sup>th</sup> Floor Akron, OH 44308-1890