### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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# OHIO PARTNERS FOR AFFORDABLE ENERGY'S MOTION TO INTERVENE AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy ("OPAE") hereby respectfully moves the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") for leave to intervene in the above-captioned matters pursuant to R.C. §4903.221 and Section 4901-1-11 of the Commission's Code of Rules and Regulations, with full powers and rights granted by the Commission specifically, by statute or by the provisions of the Commission's Code of Rules and Regulations to intervening parties. The reasons for granting this motion to intervene are contained in the memorandum attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Colleen L. Mooney
Colleen L. Mooney
Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy
231 West Lima Street
Findlay, OH 45839-1793
Telephone: (419) 425-8860
FAX: (419) 425-8862

e-mail: cmooney2@columbus.rr.com

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Ohio )	
Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric )	Case No. 12-2190-EL-POR
Illuminating Company, and The Toledo )	Case No. 12-2191-EL-POR
Edison Company for Approval of their Energy )	Case No. 12-2192-EL-POR
Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction . )	
Program Portfolio Plans for 2013 through 2015.)	

### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO INTERVENE

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Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy ("OPAE") should be permitted to intervene in these matters pursuant to Section 4903.22.1, Revised Code, and the Commission's Rules and Regulations contained in Rule 4901-01-11 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The above-referenced matters concern the application of Ohio Edison Company ("Ohio Edison"), The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company ("CEI"), and The Toledo Edison Company ("TE") (together "Companies") for approval of their energy efficiency and peak demand reduction program portfolio plans for 2013 through 2015.

In determining whether to permit intervention, the following criteria are to be considered: the nature of the person's interest; the extent to which that interest is represented by existing parties; the person's potential contribution to a just and expeditious resolution of the proceeding; and, whether granting the intervention will unduly delay or unjustly prejudice any existing party. OPAE meets all four criteria for intervention in this application.

OPAE is an Ohio corporation with a stated purpose of advocating for affordable energy policies for low and moderate income Ohioans; as such, OPAE has a real and substantial interest in these matters, which will address the 2013 through 2015 energy efficiency and peak demand reduction program portfolio plans

of the Companies. Additionally, OPAE includes as members non-profit organizations located in the service areas that will be affected by these matters. Moreover, many of OPAE's members are community action agencies. Under the federal legislation authorizing the creation and funding of these agencies, originally known as the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, community action is charged with advocating for low-income residents of their communities. <sup>2</sup>

OPAE also provides essential services in the form of bill payment assistance programs and weatherization and energy efficiency services to low income customers of these Companies. OPAE members are also ratepayers of these Companies.

The purposes of this subtitle are--

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A list of OPAE members can be found on the website: www.ohiopartners.org.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See 42 U.S.C. 672:

<sup>(1)</sup> to provide assistance to States and local communities, working through a network of community action agencies and other neighborhood-based organizations, for the reduction of poverty, the revitalization of low-income communities, and the empowerment of low-income families and individuals in rural and urban areas to become fully self-sufficient (particularly families who are attempting to transition off a State program carried out under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)); and

<sup>(2)</sup> to accomplish the goals described in paragraph (1) through--

<sup>(</sup>A) the strengthening of community capabilities for planning and coordinating the use of a broad range of Federal, State, local, and other assistance (including private resources) related to the elimination of poverty, so that this assistance can be used in a manner responsive to local needs and conditions:

<sup>(</sup>B) the organization of a range of services related to the needs of low-income families and individuals, so that these services may have a measurable and potentially major impact on the causes of poverty in the community and may help the families and individuals to achieve self-sufficiency;

<sup>(</sup>C) the greater use of innovative and effective community-based approaches to attacking the causes and effects of poverty and of community breakdown:

<sup>(</sup>D) the maximum participation of residents of the low-income communities and members of the groups served by programs assisted through the block grants made under this subtitle to empower such residents and members to respond to the unique problems and needs within their communities; and

<sup>(</sup>E) the broadening of the resource base of programs directed to the elimination of poverty so as to secure a more active role in the provision of services for--

<sup>(</sup>i) private, religious, charitable, and neighborhood-based organizations; and

<sup>(</sup>ii) individual citizens, and business, labor, and professional groups, who are able to influence the quantity and quality of opportunities and services for the poor.

OPAE's primary interest in these cases is to protect the interests of low and moderate income Ohioans and OPAE members whose provision of electric service may be affected by these proceedings. Further, OPAE has been recognized by the Commission in the past as an advocate for consumers and particularly low-income consumers, who may be affected by the outcome of these cases.

For the above reasons, OPAE has a direct, real and substantial interest in these matters. The disposition of these matters may impair or impede OPAE's ability to protect its interests. No other party to the matters will adequately represent the interests of OPAE. OPAE is a rare organization that serves as an advocate, service provider and nonprofit customer group. No other party represents this group of interests. OPAE's participation in these matters will not cause undue delay, will not unjustly prejudice any existing party, and will contribute to the just and expeditious resolution of the issues raised by this application.

Therefore, OPAE is entitled to intervene in these proceedings with the full powers and rights granted by statute and by the provisions of the Commission's Code of Rules and Regulations to intervening parties.

Respectfully submitted.

/s/Colleen L. Mooney Colleen L. Mooney Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy 231 West Lima Street Findlay, OH 45840 Telephone: (419) 425-8860

FAX: (419) 425-8862

cmooney2@columbus.rr.com

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Motion to Intervene and Memorandum of Support was served electronically upon the following parties identified below in these cases on this 2nd day of August 2012.

/s/Colleen L. Mooney
Colleen L. Mooney

Kathy J. Kolich
Carrie Dunn
First Energy Service Company
76 South Main Street, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor
Akron, Ohio 44308-1890
kjkolich@firstenergycorp.com
cdunn@firstenergycorp.com

William Wright
Attorney General's Office
Public Utilities Commission Section
180 E. Broad Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793
william.wright@puc.state.oh.us

Todd M. Williams
Christopher J. Allwein
Williams Allwein and Moser, LLC
1373 Grandview Avenue, Suite 212
Columbus, Ohio 43212
toddm@wamenergylaw.com
callwein@williamsandmoser.com

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Summary: Motion to Intervene and Memorandum in Support electronically filed by Ms. Colleen L Mooney on behalf of Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy