## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for an Increase in its Electric Distribution Rates	) ) )	Case No. 12-1682-EL-AIR
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for Tariff Approval	) )	Case No. 12-1683-EL-ATA
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for Approval to Change Accounting Methods	) ) )	Case No.12-1684-EL-AAM

## MOTION TO INTERVENE OF THE GREATER CINCINNATI HEALTH COUNCIL

The Greater Cincinnati Health Council ("GCHC") hereby moves the Commission pursuant to Revised Code § 4903.221 and Commission Rule 4901-1-11, to intervene as a party to the above-captioned proceedings. As set forth in the Memorandum in Support, the GCHC submits that this motion is timely, it has a real and substantial interest in these proceedings, it is so situated that the disposition of these proceedings without its participation may impair or impede its ability to protect those interests, and its participation in these proceedings will contribute to a just result. No existing party represents the GCHC's interests in these proceedings and granting this motion to intervene will not unduly delay these proceedings or unjustly prejudice any existing party.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Douglas E. Hart Douglas E. Hart (0005600) 441 Vine Street, Suite 4192 Cincinnati, OH 45202 (513) 621-6709 (513) 621-6981 fax dhart@douglasehart.com

Attorney for Greater Cincinnati Health Council

#### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

On June 7, 2012 Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. ("Duke") filed notice of intent to file an application for increase in rates pursuant to R.C. § 4909.18. On July 9, 2012, Duke filed its application for a rate increase. The GCHC is a non-profit association of hospitals and other health care facilities who individually are substantial consumers of electric energy and are generally located within the distribution service area of Duke Energy Ohio. The GCHC's members are substantial consumers of electric distribution service area. The application filed by Duke, if granted by the Commission, would directly impact the GCHC members and could significantly impact the prices paid by them for electric distribution service.

The standard for intervention in Commission proceedings is governed by Revised Code § 4903.221, as further stated in Commission Rule 4901-1-11, Ohio Administrative Code:

Upon timely motion, any person shall be permitted to intervene in a proceeding upon a showing that:

\* \* \*

(2) The person has a real and substantial interest in the proceeding, and the person is so situated that the disposition of the proceeding may, as a practical matter, impair or impede his or her ability to protect that interest, unless the person's interest is adequately represented by existing parties.

Factors that the Commission considers when applying the rule include the nature of the intervenors' interest, the extent that interest is represented by existing parties, the intervenors' potential contribution to a just and expeditious resolution of the issues involved, and whether intervention would result in an undue delay of the proceeding.

Duke just filed its application on July 9, 2012 and the Commission has not yet established a deadline for intervention. Therefore, this Motion to Intervene is timely.

The GCHC has a real and substantial interest in this proceeding because many of its members are substantial electric distribution service customers of Duke. The GCHC participated in Duke Energy Ohio's most recent distribution rate case, Case No. 08-0709-EL-AIR, as well as Duke's last three SSO proceedings, Case Nos. 11-3549-EL-SSO, 10-2586-EL-SSO and 08-920-EL-SSO. Almost all of the GCHC's hospital members are not for profit organizations. Utility costs represent substantial operating expenses, which affect the cost of health care in Ohio. The availability of a reliable electric supply is also critical to patient safety and disaster preparedness. While several other parties have already sought intervention in this proceeding, none of them is similarly situated to or represents the interests of the GCHC or its members.

Consistent with the requirements of Revised Code § 4903.221 and Commission Rule 4901-1-11, this motion is timely; the GCHC has a real and substantial interest herein; its interests are not represented by existing parties; it will contribute to the just and expeditious resolution of the issues and concerns raised in these proceedings; and its participation in these proceedings will not cause undue delay or unjustly prejudice any existing party.

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For these reasons, the GCHC respectfully request that this motion to intervene in the

above-captioned proceedings be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Douglas E. Hart

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Attorney for The Greater Cincinnati Health Council

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Motion to Intervene and Memorandum in Support was served upon the parties of record listed below this 6th day of August, 2012 by electronic service.

/s/ Douglas E. Hart

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Summary: Motion Motion to Intervene electronically filed by Mr. Douglas E. Hart on behalf of Greater Cincinnati Health Council