

distribution charges. On February 1, 2013, AEP-Ohio initiated this quarterly update case and filed an Application requesting that the Commission adjust AEP-Ohio's EDR. AEP-Ohio's February 1, 2013 Application contains Globe's customer-specific information that was clearly marked as confidential and was filed under seal, separate from the redacted public version of the Globe-specific schedule. Prior to filing this motion, on February 4, 2013 Globe filed a Motion to Intervene in this proceeding.

For the reasons stated below, Globe respectfully requests that the Commission grant protective treatment of Globe's customer-specific information included to support AEP-Ohio's revised EDR adjustment filed under seal.

II. ARGUMENT

The billing information of the Globe reasonable arrangement schedule filed by AEP-Ohio contains competitively sensitive and highly proprietary business information that constitutes trade secrets under Ohio law and the Commission's rules. State law recognizes the need to protect information that is confidential in nature. Accordingly, the General Assembly granted the Commission statutory authority to exempt certain documents from disclosure.⁴ Pursuant to this statutory grant of authority, the Commission promulgated Rule 4901-1-24, O.A.C. Rule 4901-1-24(D), O.A.C., provides for the issuance of an order that is necessary to protect the confidentiality of information contained in documents filed at the Commission to the extent that state and federal law prohibit the release of such information and where non-disclosure of the information is not inconsistent with the purposes of Title 49 of the Revised Code.

of an Electric Security Plan, Case Nos. 11-346-EL-SSO, *et al.*, Opinion and Order at 66-67 (August 8, 2012).

⁴ See Sections 4901.12 and 4905.07, Revised Code.

Trade secrets protected by state law are not considered public records and are therefore exempt from public disclosure.⁵ A trade secret is defined by Section 1333.61(D), Revised Code, as follows:

"Trade secret" means information, including the whole or any portion or phase of any scientific or technical information, design, process, procedure, formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or improvement, or any **business information or plans, financial information**, or listing of names, addresses, or telephone numbers, that satisfies both of the following:

(1) It derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use.

(2) It is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

Section 1333.61(D), Revised Code (emphasis added).

The Globe-related information contained within the Globe schedule is competitively sensitive and highly proprietary business and financial information falling within the statutory characterization of a trade secret.⁶ The information for which protective treatment is sought includes Globe's billings paid for electricity based upon its actual and estimated usage. Public disclosure of the pricing information would jeopardize Globe's business position and its ability to compete. The actual and projected billing information Globe seeks to protect derives independent economic value from not being generally known and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by Globe's competitors. Further, the efforts to protect the confidential pricing information are reasonable under the circumstances. Finally, actual customer usage and pricing

⁵ Section 149.43(A)(1)(v), Revised Code; *State ex rel. The Plain Dealer v. Ohio Dept. of Insurance*, 80 Ohio St. 3d 513, 530 (1997).

⁶ Section 1333.61(D), Revised Code.

terms are routinely accorded protected status by the Commission and the Commission accorded such treatment to Globe's information in AEP-Ohio's previous EDR update proceedings.⁷

The non-disclosure of the actual usage and pricing information will not impair the purposes of Title 49 of the Revised Code, as the Commission and its Staff will have full access to the confidential information in order to complete its review process. Because Globe's information constitutes a trade secret, it should be accorded protected status.

III. CONCLUSION

Globe respectfully requests that this Motion for Protective Order be granted for the reasons set forth herein.

Respectfully Submitted,

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⁷ *In the Matter of the Application of Columbus Southern Power Company and Ohio Power Company to Adjust Their Economic Development Cost Recovery Rider Pursuant to Rule 4901:1-38-08(A)(5), Ohio Administrative Code*, Case No. 11-4570-EL-RDR, Finding and Order at 4 (October 12, 2011); *In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company to Adjust Its Economic Development Cost Recovery Rider Pursuant to Rule 4901:1-38-08(A)(5), Ohio Administrative Code*, Case No. 12-688-EL-RDR, Opinion and Order at 4-5 (March 28, 2012); *In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company to Adjust Its Economic Development Cost Recovery Rider Pursuant to Rule 4901:1-38-08(A)(5), Ohio Administrative Code*, Case No. 12-2210-EL-RDR, Opinion and Order at 4-5 (September 29, 2012).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing *Motion of Globe Metallurgical, Inc. for Protective Order and Memorandum in Support* was served upon the following parties of record this 4th day of February 2013, via electronic transmission, hand-delivery or first class mail, U.S. postage prepaid.

/s/ Matthew R. Pritchard

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ON BEHALF OF OHIO POWER COMPANY

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Summary: Motion Motion of Globe Metallurgical, Inc. for Protective Order and Memorandum in Support electronically filed by Mr. Matthew R. Pritchard on behalf of Globe Metallurgical, Inc.