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**American
Red Cross**

Cincinnati Region

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January 30, 2013

Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: PUCO Case(s) 12-1682-EL-AIR & 12-1685-GA-AIR

Dear Chairman:

As CEO of the Greater Cincinnati-Dayton Region of the American Red Cross, I want to express to you our respect and appreciation for the outstanding leadership role that Duke Energy fills in the Greater Cincinnati charitable community.

Our Red Cross serves a population of over 3.4 million people living in 20 counties in Ohio, 10 in Kentucky and 6 in Indiana. Duke Energy has been supportive of our mission and the delivery of our life saving services for many years. They not only provide much needed funds to enable our work, but also provide business leaders to help us with our most important community initiatives. It is an honor to have James Mehring, Vice President, Ohio & Kentucky Gas Operations, serve as a member of our Board of Directors and Vice Chair of Volunteer Resources and Youth.

I have personally been active in the Cincinnati community for many years and have served on several boards, including the United Way, YWCA, Downtown Cincinnati Inc. and Greater Cincinnati Foundation. Duke Energy is a consistent, committed partner to many nonprofit organizations and makes significant contributions of time and talent to help advance our area's key projects and events.

I am sure I join others in my gratitude for Duke Energy's commitment to the success of the City of Cincinnati.

Very truly yours,

Patricia M. Smitson
Chief Executive Officer
American Red Cross
Greater Cincinnati-Dayton Region

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