BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of :

Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., for Approval

of a General Exemption of Certain Natural : Case Nos. 08-1344-GA-EXM Gas Commodity Sales Services or : 12-2637-GA-EXM

Ancillary Services. :

MOTION FOR A PROTECTIVE ORDER

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

The Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Staff) hereby requests that the names of the participating bidders in the recent auction for natural gas supplies be kept confidential for fifteen days pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-24. The accompanying memorandum in support sets forth the grounds for this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael DeWine
Ohio Attorney General
William L. Wright
Section Chief

<u>/s/ Thomas G. Lindgren</u>

Thomas G. Lindgren

Assistant Attorneys General Public Utilities Section 180 East Broad Street, 6th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-3793 614.466.4397 (telephone) 614.644.8764 (fax) thomas.lindgren@puc.state.oh.us

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

On February 4, 2014, an auction was held to procure natural gas supplies for Standard Choice Offer (SCO) customers of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia). On the same date, the Staff filed a report concerning the results of the auction. In this report, Staff does not disclose the names of the participating and wining bidders.

Staff requests that the names of the participating and winning bidders be kept confidential for a period of fifteen days. This is necessary in order to protect the bidders' positions in negotiations with pipelines for the incremental capacity necessary to meet their obligations to deliver gas if chosen as a supplier. This information warrants protection as a trade secret because immediate release of this information would cause serious economic harm to the auction participants. Therefore, the Commission should grant a protective order keeping this information under seal for a period of fifteen days.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael DeWine

Ohio Attorney General

William L. Wright

Section Chief

/s/ Thomas G. Lindgren

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Assistant Attorneys General Public Utilities Section 180 East Broad Street, 6th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-3793 614.466.4397 (telephone) 614.644.8764 (fax) thomas.lindgren@puc.state.oh.us

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing **Motion for Protective Order** submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, was served by regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, upon the following Parties of Record, this 5th day of February, 2014.

/s/ Thomas G. Lindgren

Thomas G. LindgrenAssistant Attorney General

Parties of Record:

Matthew Warnock Bricker & Eckler LLP 100 South Third Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

M. Howard Petricoff Vorys Sater Seymour and Pease LLP 52 East Gay Street P.O. Box 1008 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008

David C. Rinebolt
Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy
231 W. Lima Street
P.O. Box 1793
Findlay, Ohio 45840-1793
M. Anthony Long
Honda of America Mfg., Inc.
24000 Honda Parkway
Marysville, Ohio 43040

Brian A. McIntosh 1136 St. Gregory Street, Suite 100 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 John L. Einstein IV Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. 790 Windmiller Drive Pickerington, Ohio 43147

Larry Sauer
The Office of the Ohio Consumers Counsel
10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Cheryl A. MacDonald NiSource Corporate Services Company 20 Civic Center Drive Columbus, Ohio 43215

Colleen L. Mooney OPAE 231 West Lima Street Findlay, Ohio 45840

Jennifer L. Lause Direct Energy 21 East State Street, 19th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 Teresa Orahood Brocker & Eckler LLP 100 South Third Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-4291

John M. Dosker Stand Energy Corporation 1077 Celestial Street, Suite 110 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1629

Jennifer Duffer Armstrong & Okey, Inc. 222 East Town Street, 2nd Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Barth E. Royer Bell & Royer Co. LPA 33 South Grant Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43215-3927

Stephen Howard Retail Energy Supply Association 52 East Gay Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Stephen B. Seiple Columbia Gas of Ohio 200 Civic Center Drive P.O. Box 117 Columbus, Ohio 43215

Teresa Ringenback Direct Energy Business LLC 9605 El Camino Lane Plain City, Ohio 43064 Matthew White IGS Energy 6100 Emerald Parkway Dublin, Ohio 43016

Dane Stinson Bailey Cavalieri LLC 10 West Broad Street, Suite 2100 Columbus, Ohio 43215

Joseph Clark Christina L. Crable Direct Energy 21 E. State Street, 19th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Eric B. Gallon Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP 41 S. High Street, Suite 3000 Columbus, Ohio 43215

Colleen L. Mooney Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy 1431 Mulford road Columbus, Ohio 43212 This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Summary: Motion For protective order electronically filed by Mr. Thomas G. Lindgren on behalf of PUCO Staff