## BEFORE COMMISSION OF OHIO

FILE	THE PUBLIC UTILITIES C
	In the Matter of the Application for
	Establishment of a Reasonable

Arrangement between Presrite Corporation and The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company

Case No. 17-1981-EL-AEC

## MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER AND **MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT** OF PRESRITE CORPORATION

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and The Cleveland Electric Illuminating	)	
Company	)	

#### MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 4901-1-24(D), Ohio Administrative Code ("O.A.C."), Presrite Corporation ("Presrite") respectfully requests that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") issue a protective order to protect the confidentiality and prohibit the disclosure of the confidential information contained in the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation and Testimony of Gary Davis in Support of the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation filed on February 9, 2018 in this proceeding. The confidential information is not subject to disclosure and includes competitively sensitive and highly proprietary business information comprising trade secrets. The grounds for this Motion are set forth in the attached Memorandum in Support.

Respectfully submitted,

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### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

Presrite has filed a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation and Testimony of Gary Davis in Support of the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation in an unredacted form and under seal. By this Motion, Presrite requests confidential treatment for 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.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to this statutory grant of authority, the Commission promulgated Rule 4901-1-24, Ohio Administrative Code ("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 or federal law prohibits 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.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See R.C. 4901.12 and 4905.07.

Trade secrets protected by state law are not considered public records and are therefore exempt from public disclosure.<sup>2</sup> A trade secret is defined by R.C. 1333.61(D), 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 <u>business information</u> or plans, <u>financial information</u>, 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.

R.C. 1333.61(D) (emphasis added).

The redacted information contained within the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation and Testimony of Gary Davis in Support of the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation is competitively sensitive and highly proprietary business and financial information falling within the statutory characterization of a trade secret.<sup>3</sup> The confidential information that Presrite seeks to protect relates to employment levels and capital expenditures. Public disclosure of the information would jeopardize Presrite's business position and its ability to compete. The Commission has previously granted

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> R.C. 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).

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 1333.61(D).

protective treatment to similar trade secrets in other reasonable arrangement proceedings.4

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

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In the Matter of the Application of U.S. Steel Seamless Tubular Operations, LLC, Lorain Tubular Operations for Approval of a Reasonable Arrangement, Case No. 16-2020-EL-AEC, Opinion and Order at 7-8 (Feb. 8, 2017); In the Matter of the Application of TimkenSteel Corporation for Approval of a Unique Arrangement for the TimkenSteel Corporation's Stark County Facilities, Case No. 15-1857-EL-AEC, Opinion and Order at 6-7 (Dec. 16, 2015).

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a service copy of the foregoing *Motion for Protective Order* and *Memorandum in Support of Presrite Corporation*, as sent by, or on behalf of, the undersigned counsel for Ohio Gas to the following parties of record this 9th day of February 2018, by ordinary mail.

/s/ Frank P. Darr

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