### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Proper Procedures and Process for the Commission's Operation and Proceedings During the Declared State of Emergency and Related Matters Case No. 20-591-AU-UNC

## OHIO EDISON COMPANY, THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, AND THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY'S MEMORANDUM CONTRA MOTION TO REQUIRE FIRSTENERGY TO FILE A CONSUMER PROTECTION PLAN REGARDING THE CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY AND REQUEST FOR AN EXPEDITED RULING BY COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING IN OHIO, OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMER'S COUNSEL, AND OHIO POVERTY LAW CENTER

### I. DISCUSSION

The Commission should deny the motion of Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, Office of the Ohio Consumer's Counsel, and Ohio Poverty Law Center ("Movants") as both moot and unnecessary.

The motion is moot because prior to the filing of this Memorandum Contra, Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company ("Companies") filed their Transition Plan and Request for Waivers ("Plan") in Case Numbers 20-1344-EL-UNC and 20-1345-EL-WVR. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in compliance with directives from Governor DeWine, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Commission, the Companies implemented a number of key measures to help customers and employees weather the state of emergency, including suspending service disconnections for nonpayment and providing customers with enhanced, flexible payment plans. The same thoughtful and thorough approach that went into the Companies' response to the pandemic has informed their Plan, which has been carefully developed over many weeks. The filing of the Plan renders Movants' motion moot, and the Commission should deny the motion on this basis.

Further, the motion is unnecessary. As Movants are aware, the Commission has directed Ohio's other electric distribution utilities (EDUs) to submit their transition plans 45 days in advance of resuming disconnection activities.<sup>1</sup> As Movants are also aware, the Companies have begun informing customers that they may resume disconnections no sooner than September 15, which is 45 days from today.<sup>2</sup> Although the Commission did not direct the Companies to file their Plan, they have now filed it consistent with the information they have been providing to customers and with the Commission's directives to the other EDUs, thus rendering Movant's motion unnecessary.

#### II. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission should deny the Motion to Require FirstEnergy to File a Consumer Protection Plan Regarding the Coronavirus Emergency and Request for an Expedited Ruling filed by Movants.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Christine E. Watchorn</u> Christine E. Watchorn (0075919) Counsel of Record FIRSTENERGY SERVICE COMPANY 100 East Broad Street, Suite 2225 Columbus, Ohio 43215 (614) 437-0183 cwatchorn@firstenergycorp.com

Attorney for Ohio Edison Company. The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 7/24/2020 Motion to Require FirstEnergy to File a Consumer Protection Plan Regarding the Coronavirus Emergency and Request for an Expedited Ruling ("Motion"), Memorandum in Support at 6. <sup>2</sup> Motion at 1-2.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company's Memorandum Contra Motion to Require FirstEnergy to File a Consumer Protection Plan Regarding the Coronavirus Emergency and Request for an Expedited Ruling by Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, Office of the Ohio Consumer's Counsel, and Ohio Poverty Law Center was filed electronically through the Docketing Information System of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio on this 31st day of July 2020. The PUCO's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on counsel for all parties.

> <u>/s/Christine E. Watchorn</u> An Attorney for Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company

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## Case No(s). 20-0591-AU-UNC

Summary: Memorandum Contra Motion to Require FirstEnergy to File a Consumer Protection Plan Regarding the Coronavirus Emergency and Request for an Expedited Ruling electronically filed by Ms. Christine E. Watchorn on behalf of Ohio Edison Company and The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company