**BEFORE**

**THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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| In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company for Administration of the Significantly Excessive Earnings Test Under Section 4928.143(F), Revised Code, and Rule 4901:1-35-10, Ohio Administrative Code. | :  :  :  :  :  :  :  : | Case No. 15-1450-EL-UNC |

**STIPULATION AND RECOMMENDATION**

# INTRODUCTION

Rule 4901-1-30, Ohio Administrative Code (“O.A.C.”) provides that any two or more parties to a proceeding may enter into a written stipulation covering the issues pre­sented in such a proceeding. The purpose of this document is to set forth the understand­ing and agreement of the parties who have signed below (the “Signatory Parties”) and to recommend that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (the “Commission” or “PUCO”) approve and adopt this Stipulation and Recommendation (“Stipulation”), as part of its Opinion and Order in this proceeding, resolving all of the issues in the proceed­ing.

This Stipulation is supported by adequate data and information; represents a just and reasonable resolution of issues in this proceeding; violates no regulatory principle or precedent; and is the product of serious bargaining among knowledgeable and capable Signatory Parties in a cooperative process and undertaken by the Signatory Parties repre­senting a wide range of interests to resolve the aforementioned issues. For purposes of resolving the issues raised by this proceeding, the Signatory Parties stipulate, agree and recommend as set forth below.

# PARTIES

This Stipulation is entered into by and among Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company (collective­ly, “Companies”) and the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (“Staff”).[[1]](#footnote-1)

# STIPULATION

The returns on equity earned in 2014 by the Companies, as adjusted by specific items contemplated in the stipulations in Case No. 10-388-EL-SSO and Case No. 12-1230-EL-SSO, were: CEI 4.6%, Ohio Edison 11.5%, and Toledo Edison 8.4%. The Sig­natory Parties stipulate, agree and recommend that such returns do not reflect significant­ly excessive earnings for the Companies under their ESPs for 2014.

The Signatory Parties stipulate, agree and recommend that the Commission admit the Companies’ Application and accompanying materials filed September 15, 2015 into the record of this proceeding and issue its Opinion and Order in this proceeding determin­ing that significantly excessive earnings under Revised Code Section 4928.143(F) did not occur with respect to each of the Companies’ ESPs in 2014.

# PROCEDURAL ISSUES

This Stipulation is submitted for purposes of this proceeding only, and is not deemed binding in any other proceeding, nor is it to be offered or relied upon in any other proceedings, except as necessary to enforce the terms of this Stipulation. The agreement of the Signatory Parties reflected in this document is expressly conditioned upon its acceptance in its entirety and without alteration by the Commission. The Signatory Parties agree that if the Commission or any court of competent jurisdiction rejects all or any material part of this Stipulation, or otherwise materially modifies its terms, any adversely affected Signatory Party shall have the right to file an application for rehearing or a motion for reconsideration. If such application or motion is filed, and if the Com­mission or court does not, on rehearing or reconsideration, accept the Stipulation without material modification within 45 days of the filing of such motion, then anytime thereafter the adversely affected Signatory Party may terminate its Signatory Party status without penalty or cost and regain its rights as a non-Signatory Party as if it had never executed the Stipulation by filing a notice with the Commission and the other Signatory Parties.

Unless the Signatory Party exercises its right to terminate its Signatory Party status as described above, each Signatory Party agrees to and will support the reasonableness of this Stipulation before the Commission, and to cause its counsel to do the same, and in any appeal from the Commission’s adoption and/or enforcement of this Stipulation. The Signatory Parties also agree to urge the Commission to accept and approve the terms hereof as promptly as possible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Stipulation has been signed by the authorized agents of the undersigned Parties as of this 12th day of January, 2016. The undersigned Parties respectfully request the Commission to issue its Opinion and Order determining that significantly excessive earnings did not occur with respect to each of the individual Companies’ ESPs in 2014. The Stipulation will be held open for additional interveners and parties to sign on as Signatory Parties until the issuance of an Order by the Commission.

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| Robert M. Endris  Robert M. Endris  FirstEnergy Service Company  76 South Main Street  Akron, OH 44308  330.384.5728 (telephone)  330.384.3875 (fax)  [rendris@firstenergycorp.com](mailto:rendris@firstenergycorp.com)  **On behalf of Ohio Edison Company, The Toledo Edison Company, and The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company** | Thomas W. McNamee  Thomas W. McNamee  Assistant Attorney General  Public Utilities Section  180 East Broad Street, 6th Floor  Columbus, OH 43216-3793  614.466.4397 (telephone)  614.644.8764 (fax)  [thomas.mcnamee@puc.state.oh.us](mailto:thomas.mcnamee@puc.state.oh.us)  **On behalf of the Staff of  the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio** |

# PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing **Post-Hearing Brief** submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commis­sion of Ohio,was served via electronic mail upon the following Parties of Record, this 12th day of January, 2016.

Thomas W. McNamee

**Thomas W. McNamee**

Assistant Attorney General

**Parties of Record:**

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| James W. Burk  Robert M. Endris  FirstEnergy Service Company  76 South Main Street  Akron, OH 44308  [burk@firstenergycorp.com](mailto:burk@firstenergycorp.com)  [rendris@firstenergycorp.com](mailto:rendris@firstenergycorp.com) |  |

1. The Commission Staff is a party for the purpose of entering into this Stipulation pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-10(C). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)