**BEFORE**

**THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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| In the Matter of the Application of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., for Approval of a General Exemption of Certain Natural Gas Commodity Sales Services or Ancillary Services. | :  :  :  :  : | Case Nos. 08-1344-GA-EXM  12-2637-GA-EXM |
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**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

/s/ Thomas G. Lindgren

**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](mailto:thomas.lindgren@puc.state.oh.us)

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT**

On January 19, 2016, 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

**Thomas G. Lindgren**

Assistant Attorneys General

Public Utilities Section

180 East Broad Street, 6th Floor

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614.466.4397 (telephone)

614.644.8764 (fax)

[thomas.lindgren@puc.state.oh.us](mailto: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 by electronic service, upon the following Parties of Record, this 20th day of January, 2016.

/s/ Thomas G. Lindgren

**Thomas G. Lindgren**

Assistant Attorney General

**Parties of Record:**

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| Matthew Warnock  Bricker & Eckler LLP  100 South Third Street  Columbus, Ohio 43215 | John L. Einstein IV  Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.  790 Windmiller Drive  Pickerington, Ohio 43147 |
| M. Howard Petricoff  Vorys Sater Seymour and Pease LLP  52 East Gay Street  P.O. Box 1008  Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008 | Larry Sauer  The Office of the Ohio Consumers Counsel  10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800  Columbus, Ohio 43215 |
| David C. Rinebolt  Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy  231 W. Lima Street  P.O. Box 1793  Findlay, Ohio 45840-1793 | Cheryl A. MacDonald  NiSource Corporate Services Company  20 Civic Center Drive  Columbus, Ohio 43215 |
| M. Anthony Long  Honda of America Mfg., Inc.  24000 Honda Parkway  Marysville, Ohio 43040 | Colleen L. Mooney  OPAE  231 West Lima Street  Findlay, Ohio 45840 |
| Brian A. McIntosh  1136 St. Gregory Street, Suite 100  Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  Teresa Orahood  Bricker & Eckler LLP  100 South Third Street  Columbus, Ohio 43215-4291 | Jennifer L. Lause  Direct Energy  21 East State Street, 19th Floor  Columbus, Ohio 43215 |
| John M. Dosker  Stand Energy Corporation  1077 Celestial Street, Suite 110  Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1629 | Matthew White  IGS Energy  6100 Emerald Parkway  Dublin, Ohio 43016 |
| Jennifer Duffer  Armstrong & Okey, Inc.  222 East Town Street, 2nd Floor  Columbus, Ohio 43215 | Dane Stinson  Bailey Cavalieri LLC  10 West Broad Street, Suite 2100  Columbus, Ohio 43215 |
| Barth E. Royer  Bell & Royer Co. LPA  33 South Grant Avenue  Columbus, Ohio 43215-3927 | Joseph Clark  Christina L. Crable  Direct Energy  21 E. State Street, 19th Floor  Columbus, Ohio 43215 |
| Stephen Howard  Retail Energy Supply Association  52 East Gay Street  Columbus, Ohio 43215 | Eric B. Gallon  Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP  41 S. High Street, Suite 3000  Columbus, Ohio 43215 |
| Stephen B. Seiple  Columbia Gas of Ohio  200 Civic Center Drive  P.O. Box 117  Columbus, Ohio 43215 | Colleen L. Mooney  Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy  1431 Mulford road  Columbus, Ohio 43212 |
| Teresa Ringenback  Direct Energy Business LLC  9605 El Camino Lane  Plain City, Ohio 43064 |  |

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