BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the adoption of rules for)	
alternative and renewable energy technologies)	
and resources, and emission control reporting)	
requirements, and amendment of Chapters)	Case No. 08-888-EL-ORD
4901:5-1, 4901:5-3, 4901:5-5, and 4901:5-7)	
of the Ohio Administrative Code, pursuant)	
to Chapter 4928, Revised Code, to implement)	
Senate Bill No. 221)	

REPLY COMMENTS TO THE APPLICATIONS FOR REHEARING BY CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY, INC., DIRECT ENERGY SERVICES, LLC, AND INTEGRYS ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

I. <u>Introduction</u>

Now come Constellation NewEnergy, Inc., Direct Energy Services, LLC, and Integrys Energy Services, Inc. (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Competitive Suppliers") and in accordance with the Attorney Examiner's Entry of May 21, 2009 submit the following Reply Comment. On May 15, 2009 some fifteen petitions for rehearing were filed. One commentator suggested that Rule 4901:1-40 (A)(3) which states that all costs incurred by an electric distribution utility to comply with Section 4928.64, Revised Code be by-passable be amended to add "…except that those costs incurred in conformance with the requirements of R.C. section 4928.143(B)(2)(c) shall be avoidable" ¹.

The Competitive Suppliers believe that Rule 4901:1-40-03 (A) (3) is accurate, clear and concise, as written and that proposed modifications could instead create unnecessary ambiguity.

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¹ See Request for Rehearing of the Dayton Power and Light Company p. 29

Thus, the Competitive Suppliers urge the Commission not to grant rehearing as to Rule 4901:1-40-03-(A)(3).

II. Rule 4901:1-40-03(A) (3)

The statutory scheme of Senate Bill 221 via Section 4928.64, Revised Code creates a mandate that all energy supplies provided to retail customers in this State meet a portfolio standard in which a minimum percentage of the energy delivered comes from renewable and/or advanced sources. Since electric service companies, which includes all competitive retail electric service providers, governmental aggregation providers, brokers and marketers², must meet the renewable \ advanced energy portfolio standards, Section 4928.64 (E), Revised Code states in part:

All costs incurred by an electric distribution utility in complying with the requirements of this section shall be by-passable by any consumer that has exercised choice of supplier under section 4928.03 of the Revised Code.

Section 4928.64(E), Revised Code thus protects retail customers who exercise their right to shop for energy from having to pay for renewable or advanced generation they do not receive. Rule 4901:1-40-03(A) (3) is virtually a restatement of Section 4928.64(E), Revised Code, and as such any amendment to the Rule must be carefully scrutinized to insure that the intent of the General Assembly is not being thwarted.

The Commentator seeking re-hearing suggests that Rule 4901:1-40-03(A) (3) be amended by adding an exemption for Section 4928.143(B)(2)(c), Revised Code. Section 4928.143(B)(3)(c), Revised Code however does not pertain to renewable or advanced energy. Section 4928.143(B)(3)(c) permits the electric utility to impose a non by-passable charge if the charge is needed to support the construction of new generation – brown or green – where the

utility has applied for and the Commission has found: 1) additional generation is needed; 2) the new generation will come from new plants; 3) the new plants will be dedicated to the public; and 4) the new plants will be publicly bid. Since the Rule in question only addresses compliance with the portfolio requirements in Section 4928.64, Revised Code, it would be confusing and create ambiguity to add a reference to Section 4928.143(B)(3)(c), Revised Code when that Code Section does not refer to Section 4928.64, Revised Code in general or the portfolio standards in particular.

III. Conclusion

WHEREFORE, the Competitive Suppliers request that the Commission not grant rehearing on Rule 4901:1-40-03(A) (3).

Respectfully submitted,

CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY, INC. DIRECT ENERGY SERVICES, LLC INTEGRYS ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

s/M. Howard Petricoff

M. Howard Petricoff VORYS, SATER, SEYMOUR AND PEASE LLP 52 East Gay Street P.O. Box 1008 Columbus, Ohio 43216-1008

Telephone: (614) 464-5414 Facsimile: (614) 719-4904 E-mail: mhpetricoff@vorys.com

Counsel for Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.; Direct Energy Services, LLC; and Integrys Energy

Services, Inc.

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² Section 4928.01 (A)(9), Revised Code

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Application For Rehearing was served upon the following persons this 27th day of May, 2009 via electronic mail or via U.S. first class mail, postage prepaid.

s/M. Howard Petricoff

M. Howard Petricoff

Dona R. Seger-Lawson
Dayton Power and Light Company
1065 Woodman Drive
Dayton, OH 45432
dona.seger-lawson@dplinc.com

Leigh Herington, Executive Director NOPEC 31320 Solon Rd., Ste. 20 Solon, OH 44139 nopec@windstream.net

Ellis Jacobs 333 W. First St., Ste. 500 Dayton, OH 45402 Ejacobs@ablelaw.org

Gene Krebs Greater Ohio 846½ E. Main Street Columbus, OH 43205

Theodore Robinson Citizen Power 2424 Dock Road Madison, OH 44057 robinson@citizenpower.com

Brandi Whetstone Sierra Club, Ohio Chapter 131 N. High Street, Ste. 605 Columbus, OH 43215 Marvin I. Resnik AEP Service Corp 1 Riverside Plaza Columbus, OH 43215-2355 miresnik@aep.com

Gregory E. Hitzhusen, MDIV, Ph.D. Executive Director
Ohio Interfaith Power and Light
PO Box 26671
Columbus, OH 43226
ohioipl@gmail.com

Joseph Logan Ohio Farmers Union 20 S. Third St., Ste. 130 Columbus, OH 43215 j-logan@ohfarmersunion.org

Amy Gomberg Environment Ohio 203 E. Broad St., Ste. 3 Columbus, OH 43215 agomberg@environmentOhio.org

Tim Walters United Clevelanders Against Poverty 4115 Bridge Avenue Cleveland, OH 44113 Trane222222@aol.com

Joseph Meissner
The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland
1223 West Sixth Street
Cleveland, OH 44113
jpmeissn@lasclev.org

David C. Rinebolt
Colleen L. Mooney
Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy
231 West Lima St.
PO Box 1793
Findlay, OH 45839-1793
drinebolt@aol.com
cmooney2@columbus.rr.com

Noel M. Morgan Communities United for Action Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio 215 E. Ninth Street Cincinnati, OH 45202 nmorgan@lascinti.org

Lance M. Keiffer Lucas County/NOAC 711 Adam Street, 2nd Floor Toledo, OH 43624-1680 lkeiffer@co.lucas.oh.us Michael R. Smalz Joseph Maskovyak Ohio State Legal Services Association 555 Buttles Ave. Columbus, OH 43215 msmalz@oslsa.org jmaskovyak@oslsa.org

Leslie A. Kovacik Dep. Of Law City of Toledo/NOAC 420 Madison Ave., 4th Fl. Toledo, OH 43604 Leslie.kovacik@toledo.oh.gov Steve Millard Council of Smaller Enterprises The Higbee Building 100 Public Square, Suite 210 Cleveland, OH 44113 smillard@cose.org

Joseph G. Strines DPL Inc. 1065 Woodman Drive Dayton, OH 45432 joseph.strines@DPLInc.com Richard L. Sites Ohio Hospital Association 155 E. Broad Street, 15th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-3620 ricks@ohanet.org

Gary A. Jeffries Dominion Resources Services, Inc. 501 Martindale Street, Suite 400 Pittsburgh, PA 15212-5817 gary.a.jeffries@dom.com Barth E. Royer
Bell & Royer
33 S. Grant Avenue
Columbus, OH 43215-3927
barth.royer@aol.com

Mark S. Yurick Chester, Willcox & Saxby 65 E. State Street, Suite 1000 Columbus, OH 43215-4213 myurick@cwslaw.com John W. Bentine Chester, Willcox & Saxby 65 E. State Street, Suite 1000 Columbus, OH 43215 jbentine@cwslaw.com James S. Russell NAIOP 470 Olde Worthington Road, Suite 200 Westerville, OH 43082 jrussell@pizzuti.com

Steven T. Nourse AEP 1 Riverside Plaza Columbus, OH 43215 snourse@aep.com

Dale R. Arnold Ohio Farm Bureau Federation 280 N. High Street P. O. Box 182383 Columbus, OH 43218-2383 darnold@ofbf.org

Jason B. Keyes Keyes & Fox, LLP 1721 21st Avenue East Seattle, WA 98112 jkeyes@keyesandfox.com

James W. Burk FirstEnergy Services Company 76 S. Main Street Akron, OH 44308 burkj@firstenergycorp.com

Joseph M. Clark McNees, Wallace & Nurick 21 E. State Street, 17th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-4228 jclark@mwncmh.com Amy Ewing Greater Cincinnati Health Council 2100 Sherman Avenue, Suite 100 Cincinnati, OH 45212 aewing@gchc.org

Thomas L. Froehle McNees Wallace & Nurick, LLC 21 E. State Street, 17th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-4228 tfroehle@mwncmh.com

Terrence O'Donnell Bricker & Eckler 100 S. Third Street Columbus, OH 43215 todonnell@bricker.com

Glenn Krassen
E. Brett Breitschwerdt
Bricker & Eckler
100 S. Third Street
Columbus, OH 43215
gkrassen@bricker.com
ebreitschwerdt@bricker.com

Greg Dunn Schottenstein, Zox & Dunn Co., LPA 250 West Street Columbus, OH 43215 gdunn@szd.com

James Burk
Ebony L. Miller
FirstEnergy Corp.
76 S. Main Street
Akron, OH 44308
burkj@firstenergycorp.com
elmiller@firstenergycorp.com

Sam Randazzo
Lisa McAlister
Dan Neilsen
McNees, Wallace & Nurick
21 E. State Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-4228
sam@mwncmh.com
lmcalister@mwncmh.com
dneilsen@mwncmh.com

Jeffrey Small Richard Reese Terry Etter Maureen Grady **Gregory Poulos** Anne Hotz Larry Sauer Office of Ohio Consumers' Counsel 10 W. Broad Street, Suite 1800 Columbus, OH 43215-3485 small@occ.state.oh.us reese@occ.state.oh.us etter@occ.state.oh.us grady@occ.state.oh.us poulos@occ.state.oh.us hotz@occ.state.oh.us sauer@occ.state.oh.us

Paul Colbert
Duke Energy Ohio
155 E. Broad Street, Suite 21
Columbus, OH 43215
pcolbert@cinergy.com

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Summary: Memorandum The attached pleading was filed on May 27, 2009, in Case No. 08-888 in paper copy form at docketing. It is being re-filed electronically today at the request of Attorney Examiner Richard Bulgrin. electronically filed by Mr. W Jonathan Airey on behalf of Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. and Direct Energy Services, LLC and Integrys Energy Services, Inc.