



139 East Fourth Street, R. 25 At II
P.O. Box 960
Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-0960
Tel: 513-419-1837
Fax: 513-419-1848
dianne.kuhnell@duke-energy.com

Dianne B. Kuhnell
Senior Paralegal

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL DELIVERY

March 1, 2010

Docketing Division
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Case No. 09-974-EL-FAC
09-975-EL-RDR

Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find for filing an original and twelve copies of the *Application to Approve the Fuel Economy Purchased Power Component and the System Reliability Tracker Component; Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.'s Motion for Protective Order; Direct testimony of Timothy J. Thieman and the Direct Testimony of William Don Wathen.*

We are also enclosing an envelope containing the Confidential material to be filed under seal as referenced in the Motion filed concurrently.

Please file-stamp and return two copies in the envelope provided.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (513) 419-1837.

Very truly yours,

Dianne Kuhnell
Senior Paralegal

Enclosure

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**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Duke)
Energy Ohio, Inc. to Establish its Fuel and) Case No. 09-974-EL-FAC
Economy Purchased Power Component of its)
Market-Based Standard Service Office for)
2009.)

In the Matter of the Application of Duke)
Energy Ohio, Inc. to Establish its System)
Reliability Tracker of its Market-Based) Case No. 09-975-EL-RDR
Standard Service Offer for 2009.)

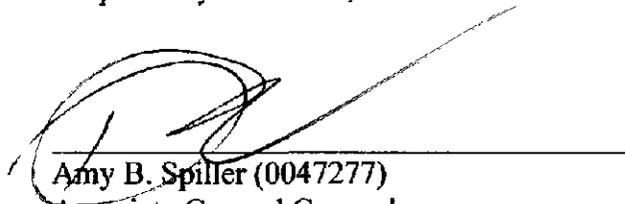
**DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC.'S
MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER TO PROTECT THE
CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN ITS APPLICATION
TO APPROVE THE FUEL ECONOMY PURCHASED POWER COMPONENT
OF ITS MARKET-BASED STANDARD SERVICE OFFER
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND IN THE ANNUAL
FILINGS, TESTIMONY AND ATTACHMENTS OF THE ABOVE-CAPTIONED
CASE**

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke Energy Ohio or the Company) hereby moves the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) for leave to file under seal certain information contained in its Application to Approve the Fuel Economy Purchased Power Component of its Market-Based Standard Service Offer in Case No. 09-974-EL-FAC and its System Reliability Tracker in Case No. 09-975-EL-RDR. Specifically Duke Energy Ohio requests that this Commission issue an Order declaring the following documents to be confidential:

1. Attachment SP-1 to the testimony of Salil Pradhan;
2. Attachment TJT-1 in the testimony of Timothy J. Thiemann; and
3. Attachment WDW-2 to the testimony William Don Wathen Jr.

The aforementioned attachments, collectively (Confidential Material) sets forth confidential and proprietary trade secret information including, but not limited to, the Company's capacity positions, coal inventory levels and accounting adjustments. In the attached Memorandum in Support, Duke Energy Ohio explains the reasons why confidential treatment of this information contained in the attachments to testimony as part of the Application is necessary.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy B. Spiller (0047277)
Associate General Counsel
Rocco D'Ascenzo (0077651)
Senior Counsel
139 Fourth Street, 25Atrium II
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
Phone (513)419-1852
Fax (513)419-1846
Email :rocco.dascenzo@duke-energy.com

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

I. INTRODUCTION

Duke Energy Ohio is an Ohio corporation with its principal office in Cincinnati, Ohio and is engaged in the business of supplying electric transmission, distribution, and generation service in Adams, Brown, Butler, Clinton, Clermont, Hamilton, Montgomery, and Warren Counties in Southwestern Ohio to approximately 642,000 consumers, and supplying electric transmission and distribution service to approximately 23,000 consumers that receive generation service from competitive retail electric service (CRES) providers.

On September 9, 2009, the Commission established the above-styled proceedings for the annual review of Duke Energy Ohio's Price-to-Compare Fuel and Purchased Power Rider (Rider PTC-FPP) and System-Resource-Adjustment System Reliability Tracker (Rider SRA-SRT) for the twelve month period ending December 31, 2009. Contemporaneously with this Motion, Duke Energy Ohio is filing its application and supporting testimony to approve the 2009 rider adjustments.

II. LAW AND ARGUMENT:

Duke Energy Ohio is a "public utility" as defined by R. C. 4905.02 and 4905.03; and an "electric distribution company," "electric light company," "electric supplier," and an "electric utility" as defined by R. C. 4928.01.

Generally speaking, the Ohio Public Records Act requires the disclosure of information that is maintained by any public office.¹ But this Act is not without exception. Relevant to this motion is R.C. 1333.61, *et seq.*, which serves to preclude

¹ R.C. 149.43.

public access to and dissemination of trade secret information.² As the Ohio Supreme Court has instructed, the following factors are relevant to determining whether information constitutes trade secrets under R.C. 1333.61(D):

(1) The extent to which the information is known outside the business; (2) the extent to which it is known to those inside the business, *i.e.*, by the employees; (3) the precautions taken by the holder of the trade secret to guard the secrecy of the information; (4) the savings effected and the value to the holder in having the information as against competitors; (5) the amount of effort or money expended in obtaining and developing the information; and (6) the amount of time and expense it would take for others to acquire and duplicate the information.³

As the Supreme Court further confirmed, “documents...that are determined to be trade secrets are not public records and are exempt from disclosure.”⁴

The Commission’s Rules of Practice are consistent with the proposition that trade secret information is exempt from disclosure. Indeed, said rules empower the Commission, its legal director, deputy legal director, or attorney examiner to:

[I]ssue any order which is necessary to protect the confidentiality of information contained in the document, to the extent that state or federal law prohibits release of the information, including where the information is deemed by the commission, the legal director, or the attorney examiner assigned to the case to constitute a trade secret under Ohio law, and where non-disclosure of the information is not inconsistent with the purposes of title 49 of the revised code.⁵

Duke Energy Ohio respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Motion for Protective Order to Protect the Confidentiality of Information Contained in its Application submitted relative to the captioned matter. The confidential information is

² *See, State, ex rel. The Plain Dealer v. Ohio Department of Insurance*, 1997 Ohio 75, 80 Ohio St.3d 513, 524. *See also, State ex rel. Perrea v. Cincinnati Public Schools*, 2009 Ohio 4762, ¶ 33 (trade secrets are not public records).

³ *Id.*, at 524-525.

⁴ *Id.*, at 524.

⁵ Ohio Admin. Code Ann. 4901-1-24(D) (Baldwin 2006).

reflected in the following testimony attachments: SP-1 of Salil Pradhan; WDW-2 of William Don Wathen Jr.; and TJT-1 of Timothy J. Thiemann. This information includes, but is not limited to, data describing the Company's capacity positions, coal inventory levels and accounting adjustments at its Zimmer Generating Station.

In support of the application in the above-styled proceeding, Duke Energy Ohio filed testimony of William Don Wathen Jr, Timothy J. Thiemann, and Salil Pradhan. Attachments WDW-2, TJT-1 and SP-1 to the aforementioned testimony, contain highly confidential trade secret information. Specifically, Attachment WDW-2 to Mr. Wathen's testimony presents the Company's data supporting the Rider SRA-SRT quarterly filings, including estimates of power and capacity costs, allocations and reconciliations by retail rate group. Attachment SP-1 summarizes the Rider SRA-SRT transactions for each of the four quarters in 2009, including the Company's capacity and generation portfolio position and resource plan, depicting the type and cost of various supply-side power purchase options. This data, (SP-1 and WDW-2) includes confidential and proprietary trade secret information regarding the Company's existing capacity position, forecasted demand for native load consumers, and supply requirements necessary for the provision of an appropriate reserve margin in the competitive retail and wholesale electric markets. TJT-1 contains a schedule depicting the Company's coal inventory at its Zimmer Generating Station for the past several years. The schedule shows both the physical inventory levels and amounts recorded on the Company's fuel ledger and a reconciliation between the two. Release of this information would give coal suppliers and competitors key and sensitive information regarding how the Company manages its portfolio and inventory at all of its generating plants.

The confidential trade secret information contained in Attachments TJT-1, WDW-2 and SP-1, if publicly disclosed, would give Duke Energy Ohio's competitors access to competitively sensitive, confidential information, which in turn could allow the competitors to make offers to sell coal, capacity, and wholesale power at higher prices than the competitors might offer in the absence of such information and to the detriment of Duke Energy Ohio and its customers. Further, competitors would be able to determine the Company's capacity and fuel positions and future needs, thereby placing the Company at a competitive disadvantage in terms of pricing and procuring needed resources.

Ohio Administrative Code Section 4901-1-24(D) allows Duke Energy Ohio to seek leave of the Commission to file information Duke Energy Ohio considers to be proprietary trade secret information, or otherwise confidential, in a redacted and non-redacted form under seal.⁶ This rule also establishes a procedure for presenting to the Commission that information which is confidential, and therefore should be protected.⁷

Duke Energy Ohio is filing a redacted version of the Confidential Material (Attachments WDW-2, TJT-1 and SP-1) as attachments to the testimony of William Don Wathen Jr., Timothy J. Thiemann, and Salil Pradhan, respectively, in its filings concurrently with this Motion. Duke Energy Ohio has marked as confidential, trade secret, or proprietary, each redacted page of the Confidential Material pursuant to OAC 4901-1-24(D)(2).

The Confidential Material described above, if disclosed, would enable competitors in the wholesale power market to ascertain the manner in which Duke Energy Ohio plans, manages and operates their generating facilities, the cost associated

⁶ OHIO ADMIN. CODE § 4901-1-24 (Anderson 2003)

⁷ *Id.*

therewith, and would enable competitors to ascertain Duke Energy Ohio's positions (long and short) with respect to electric generation capabilities. Further, the competitively sensitive information will provide power marketing competitors with knowledge that will allow them to potentially manipulate the marketplace so as to unnecessarily cause consumers to pay more for electricity than they otherwise would.

For example, the capacity position information contained in Attachments WDW-2 and SP-1 would grant competitors a distinct advantage in that they would be able to anticipate Duke Energy Ohio's capacity supply needs and the types of instruments Duke Energy Ohio has and will utilize. Additionally, the availability of coal inventory levels over the past several years, will grant competitors and suppliers a distinct advantage in that they would be able to anticipate Duke Energy Ohio's fuel needs.

With the information contained in Attachments, WDW-2, TJT-1 and SP-1, a competitor could take actions that, in the absence of this information, it would not otherwise take. Such actions might include adjusting its prices, either to win contracts on which Duke Energy Ohio may also be bidding – business the competitors otherwise would not be in a position to win, or to set its prices artificially high to take advantage of an overall short market, the latter action obviously forcing consumers to pay higher prices for power.

The information for which Duke Energy Ohio is seeking confidential treatment is not known outside of Duke Energy Ohio, and it is not disseminated within Duke Energy Ohio except to those employees with a legitimate business need to know and act upon the information.

The public interest will be served by granting this Motion. By protecting the confidentiality of the Duke Energy Ohio's coal inventory levels, resource plan and its existing capacity position, forecasted demand for native load consumers, and supply requirements necessary for an adequate reserve margin, the Commission will prevent undue harm to Duke Energy Ohio and its ratepayers, as well as ensuring a sound competitive marketplace.

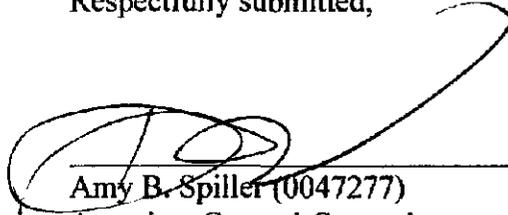
Duke Energy Ohio considers the Confidential Material identified herein to be proprietary, confidential, and trade secrets, as those terms are used in R. C. 1333.61. In addition, this information should be treated as confidential pursuant to R. C. 4901.16. The redacted versions of Attachments TJT-1, WDW-2 and SP-1 do not include the Confidential Material. Three unredacted versions of Attachments TJT-1, WDW-2 and SP-1 under seal are included with this filing as Exhibit A.

III. CONCLUSION:

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission, pursuant to Ohio Admin. Code Section 4901-1-24(D), should grant Duke Energy Ohio's Motion for Protective Order to Protect the Confidentiality of Information Contained in Attachments TJT-1, WDW-2, and Attachment SP-1, attached to and supporting Duke Energy Ohio's Application in the

above-styled proceedings by making a determination that the Confidential Material is confidential, proprietary and a trade secret under R. C. 4901.16 and 1333.61.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy B. Spiller', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with loops and a long tail that extends to the right.

Amy B. Spiller (0047277)

Associate General Counsel

Rocco D'Ascenzo (0077651)

Senior Counsel

139 Fourth Street, 25 Atrium II

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Phone (513)419-1852

Fax (513)419-1846

Email :rocco.dascenzo@duke-energy.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of the foregoing Duke Energy Ohio's Motion for Protective Order was served on the following parties this 1st day of March, 2010 by, overnight delivery.


Rocco D'Ascenzo

David C. Rinebolt
Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy
231 W. Lima Street
P.O. Box 1793
Columbus, Ohio 43212

Ann M. Holtz, Esq.
Jeffrey L. Small, Esq.
Office of Consumers' Counsel
10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Michael L. Kurtz
David F. Boehm, Esq.
Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry
36 East Seventh Street, Suite 2110
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Duane Luckey
Attorney General Office
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 9th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215