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THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO 2011 MAR 14 PM 1:41

In the Matter of the Application of Columbus)
Southern Power Company and Ohio Power)
Company for Authority to Establish a Standard)
Service Offer Pursuant to Section 4928.143,)
Revised Code, in the Form of an Electric)
Security Plan)
In the Matter of the Application of Columbus)
Southern Power Company and Ohio Power)
Case No. 11-349-EL-AAM
Case No. 11-349-EL-AAM
Case No. 11-350-EL-AAM
Case No. 11-350-EL-AAM

MOTION TO INTERVENE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OF OHIO

The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio ("AICUO") on behalf of itself and its member institutions hereby moves the Public Utility Commission of Ohio ("Commission") to intervene as a full party of record in the above captioned proceedings pursuant to Ohio Revised Code ("R.C.") Section 4903.221 and Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC") Rule 4901-1-11. As set forth in the attached Memorandum in Support, the AICUO and its members have real and substantial interests in these proceedings which cannot be adequately represented by parties currently intervening in this proceeding. Additionally, the AICUO submits that the disposition of these proceedings will impair or impede the ability of the AICUO and its members to protect those interests. The AICUO further submits that the legal positions and issues that it will advance are relevant to the merits of these proceedings and, although it will accept the record in these proceedings as it stands, it intends to contribute in a unique manner to the full development and equitable resolution of the proceeding. The AICUO also submits that

granting this Motion will not unduly delay the proceedings or unjustly prejudice any existing party.

For these reasons, as explained more fully herein, the AICUO respectfully requests that the Commission grant its motion to intervene in the above captioned proceedings.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Todd Jones (0083418)

General Counsel, AICUO

Christopher L. Miller (0063259)

Counsel of Record

Direct Dial: (614) 462-5033

E-mail: cmiller@szd.com

Gregory H. Dunn (0007353)

Direct Dial: (614) 462-2339

E-mail: gdunn@szd.com

Asim Z. Haque (0081880)

Direct Dial: (614) 462-1072

E-mail: ahaque@szd.com

Schottenstein Zox & Dunn Co., LPA

250 West Street

Columbus, Ohio 43215

(614) 462-2700 (Main Number)

(614) 222-4707 (Facsimile)

Attorneys for the AICUO

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION TO INTERVENE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OF OHIO

I. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

The above captioned proceedings were initiated by Columbus Southern Power Company and Ohio Power Company (collectively "the Companies"). The Companies initiated these proceedings in order to obtain Commission review and approval of its Standard Service Offer ("SSO") to be completed via the Electric Security Plan ("ESP") proposed jointly by the Columbus Southern Power Company (11-346-EL-SSO) and by the Ohio Power Company (11-348-EL-SSO). The Companies conduct combined business in the state of Ohio under the trade name AEP Ohio.

By Entry dated February 2, 2011, the Commission established a procedural schedule for its consideration of the ESP requiring that adversely impacted parties file motions to intervene by Mach 14, 2011. Thus, the AICUO's submission of this Motion is timely.

II. <u>BASIS FOR INTERVENTION</u>

a. Standard Of Review

R.C. section 4903.221 and OAC Rule 4901-1-11 set forth the standards pursuant to which the AICUO may intervene in the above-captioned Commission proceedings. R.C. section 4903.221 confers the statutory right to intervene in a Commission proceeding to any party "who may be adversely affected by a proceeding." Additionally, OAC Rule 4901-1-11 provides that:

Upon timely motion, any person shall be permitted to intervene in a proceeding upon a showing that: . . .[t]he person has a real and substantial interest in the proceeding, and the person is so situated that the disposition of the proceeding may, as a practical matter, impair or impede his or her ability to protect that

interest, unless the person's interest is adequately represented by existing parties.

Upon filing a timely motion demonstrating a real and substantial interest and upon demonstrating that the proceeding will impair or impede the ability to protect the interest, a party is entitled to an Order granting its intervention request. In determining whether a party is entitled to intervene, the Commission shall consider:

(1) the nature and extent of the prospective intervenor's interest; (2) the legal position advanced by the prospective intervenor and its probable relation to the merits of the case; (3) whether the intervention by the prospective intervenor will unduly prolong or delay the proceeding; (4) whether the prospective intervenor will significantly contribute to full development and equitable resolution of the factual issues; and (5) the extent to which the person's interest is represented by existing parties.

(See R.C. 4903.221(B) and OAC 4901-1-11(B)).

b. AICUO And Its Member Institutions Have Real And Substantial Interests In This Proceeding That Cannot Be Represented By Any Other Party, And The Disposition Of These Proceedings Will Impair Those Interests.

The AICUO is comprised of fifty-one (51) independent colleges and universities located across the state of Ohio. AICUO member institutions with campuses in the territory of the Companies include Bluffton University, Capital University, Columbus College of Art & Design, Denison University, The University of Findlay, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Franklin University, Heidelberg College, Kenyon College, Malone University, Mount Carmel College of Nursing, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Muskingum College, University of Northwestern Ohio, Ohio Dominican University, Ohio Northern University, Ohio Wesleyan University, Otterbein College, University of Rio Grande, Tiffin University, Walsh University, Wittenberg University, and The College of Wooster. Combined, these colleges and universities serve as the

home to more than 30,000 tuition paying students. In addition, these independent colleges and universities employ thousands of individuals within the territory of the Companies.

Unlike Ohio's public universities and colleges, AICUO members do not have line-items in the state budget providing funding for their operations. AICUO members are almost exclusively tuition dependent, with very few having any substantial endowment relied upon for operations. After personnel costs for faculty and staff, utility costs are among the largest of costs for all independent colleges. AICUO members make difficult decisions each year regarding tuition and constantly strive to keep the increases to a minimum, but must raise tuition sufficiently to meet rising operating expenses. The Companies' proposed ESP and corresponding modification to electric utility rates is yet another potentially increasing expense that may result in higher tuition fees if the interests of private independent colleges and universities are not adequately represented in this proceeding. Accordingly, we submit that the AICUO and its member institutions have real and substantial interests in the above captioned proceedings.

The AICUO member institutions cited herein are extremely large users of the Companies' electric utility service. The rate modification as well as the change in the terms and conditions under which electric utility service will be offered will have an adverse impact on the AICUO and its member institutions.

Additionally, the load characteristic of the AICUO membership is as diverse as the membership of the organization. The AICUO membership includes research universities, traditional liberal arts colleges, comprehensive universities, single-purpose institutions, and religiously affiliated colleges. Early morning and afternoon usage may be high at certain institutions while late evening and night usage may be high at others. These factors should be

considered in setting electric utility rates and no party currently admitted as an intervenor in these proceedings will represent the interests of the AICUO and its member institutions. As a result, those interests will be impaired if the AICUO is not admitted as an intervenor in these proceedings.

Furthermore, the AICUO has been before this Commission in separate rate matters, and the AICUO's intervention will not unduly prolong or delay the proceedings before the Commission in this case. Rather, the AICUO seeks to protect the interests of its member colleges and will do so efficiently and expeditiously.

III. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

For the reasons set forth above, the AICUO on behalf of its self and its member institutions respectfully requests that the Commission grant its motion to intervene in the above-captioned proceedings.

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Todd Jones (0083418)

General Counsel, AICUO

Christopher L. Miller (0063259)

Counsel of Record

Direct Dial: (614) 462-5033 E-mail: cmiller@szd.com Gregory H. Dunn (0007353) Direct Dial: (614) 462-2339

E-mail: gdunn@szd.com Asim Z. Haque (0081880) Direct Dial: (614) 462-1072 E-mail: ahaque@szd.com

Schottenstein Zox & Dunn Co., LPA

250 West Street

Columbus, Ohio 43215

(614) 462-2700 (Main Number)

(614) 222-4707 (Facsimile)

Attorneys for the AICUO

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing Motion to Intervene was served upon the parties of record listed below this 14th day of March, 2011 via first class mail and electronic mail.

Asim Z. Haque

Steven T. Nourse
Matthew J. Satterwhite
American Electric Power Service Corp.
1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
stnourse@aep.com
mjsatterwhite@aep.com

Daniel R. Conway
Porter Wright Morris & Arthur
Huntington Center
41 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
dconway@porterwright.com

Samuel Randazzo
Joseph Oilker
Frank Darr
McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC
21 East State Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
sam@mwncmh.com
joliker@mwncmh.com
fdarr@mwncmh.com

Amy B. Spiller
Dorothy K. Corbett
Duke Energy Retail Sales LLC
139 East Fourth Street, 1303-Main
Cincinnati, OH 45202
amy.spiller@duke-energy.com
dorothy.corbett@duke-energy.com

David F. Boehm
Michael L. Kurtz
Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry
36 East Seventh Street, Suite 1510
Cincinnati, OH 45202
dboehm@bkllawfirm.com
mkurtz@bkllawfirm.com

Colleen L. Mooney
Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy
231 West Lima Street
Findlay, OH 45839
cmooney2@columbus.rr.com

Terry L. Etter
Michael E. Idzkowski
Maureen R. Grady
Office of the Ohio Consumer's Counsel
10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800
Columbus, OH 43215
etter@occ.state.oh.us
idzkowski@occ.state.oh.us
grady@occ.state.oh.us

Thomas J. O'Brien
Terrence O'Donnell
Christopher Montgomery
Bricker & Eckler LLP
100 South Third Street
Columbus, OH 43215
tobrien@bricker.com
todonnell@bricker.com
cmontgomery@bricker.com

Richard L. Sites
Ohio Hospital Association
155 East Broad Street, 15th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
ricks@Qhanet.org

Michael R. Smalz Ohio Poverty Law Center 555 Buttles Avenue Columbus, OH 43215 msmalz@ohiopovertylaw.org

James F. Lang
Laura C. McBride
N. Trevor Alexander
Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP
1400 KeyBank Center
800 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114
jlang@calfee.com
lmcbride@calfee.com
talexander@calfee.com

Mark A. Hayden
FirstEnergy Service Company
76 South Main Street
Akron, OH 44308
haydenm@firstenergycorp.com

John Bentine
Mark S. Yurick
Chester Wilcox & Saxbe LLP
65 East State Street, Suite 1000
Columbus, OH 43215
jbentine@cwslaw.com
myurick@cwslaw.com

Jay E. Jadwin
American Electric Power Service Corporation
1 Riverside Plaza, 29th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Telephone: (614) 716-1606
Fax: (614) 716-2950
jejadwin@aep.com