

January 22, 2013

Ms. Barcy S. McNeal, Secretary Docketing Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Re: In the Matter of the Regulation of the Purchased Gas Adjustment Clauses Contained Within the Rate Schedules of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. and Related Matters, Case No. 12-218-GA-GCR et al.

Dear Ms. McNeal,

The Office of Ohio Consumers' Counsel ("OCC") neither supports nor objects to the Stipulation in this case. This OCC statement is based on, among other things, the understanding that there is no pending proposal or issue before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") involving any consideration to eliminate the Gas Cost Recovery ("GCR")mechanism for the customers of Duke Energy Ohio ("Duke"). That means there is no proposal for Duke to exit its merchant function.

Sincerely,

/s/ Joseph P. Serio

Joseph P. Serio Assistant Consumers' Counsel

Cc: Parties of Record

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 12-0218-GA-GCR

Summary: Correspondence OCC Neither Supports Nor Objects to the Stipulation in this Case electronically filed by Patti Mallarnee on behalf of Serio, Joseph P.