# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of Border Energy Electric	)		51155
Services, Inc. Annual Alternative Energy	)	Case No. 13 - 0881 - EL - ACP	PUCO
Portfolio Status Report and Plan for Compliance	)		
with Future Renewable Energy Benchmarks	``		

### MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-24(D), Border Energy Electric Services, Inc.

("Border") hereby moves the Commission for a protective order regarding the confidential information that it is filing contemporaneously with this Motion, specifically the projected baselines and renewable energy certificate ("REC") requirements set forth in Table 1 of its Alternative Energy Portfolio Status Report and Plan for Compliance with Future Renewable Energy Benchmarks (the "Confidential Information"). Section 4928.06(F), Revised Code, requires the Commission to take the necessary measures to protect the confidentiality of certain information provided to the Commission by a competitive retail electric service provider subject to certification.

Border requests that the Commission issue such order as is necessary to protect the Confidential Information. Non-disclosure of the information is not inconsistent with the purposes of Title 49 of the Revised Code because the Commission and its Staff will have full access to the Confidential Information in order to fulfill their statutory obligations.

The bases for this Motion may be found in the attached Memorandum of Support.

Respectfully submitted,

BORDER ENERGY ELECTRIC SERVICES, INC.

Ann B. Zallocco (0081435) THOMPSON HINE LLP

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Its Counsel

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#### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Border Energy Electric Services, Inc. ("Border") is concurrently filing an Alternative Energy Portfolio Status Report and Plan for Compliance with Future Renewable Energy Benchmarks (the "Report"). Table 1 of the Report provides the Commission with a projection of Border's "baseline," i.e. its forecasted retail electric load, for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015, and its future renewable energy compliance obligations (together, the "Confidential Information"). Because Border considers such information in Table 1 of the Report to be confidential, the projected baselines and renewable energy certificate ("REC") requirements set forth in Table 1 have been filed under seal as required by Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-24(D).

The Confidential Information includes detail about the operations of Border that would be of significant interest to competitors. Consequently, that data constitutes confidential information that should not be disclosed in the public record.

The Confidential Information constitutes trade secrets as defined in Revised Code §1333.61(D). The information (1) derives economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use, and (2) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

The Ohio Supreme Court adopted six factors to be used in determining whether a trade secret claim meets the statutory definition:

- 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.

State ex rel. The Plain Dealer v. Ohio Dept. of Ins., 80 Ohio St.3d 513, 524-525 (1997).

The Confidential Information is not known outside of Border and is known within Border only to senior managers and a limited number of employees with a particular need to know.

Border has taken precautions to guard the secrecy of the Confidential Information by limiting its dissemination. Further, Border expended a significant amount of time and money in developing the Confidential Information. Disclosure of the Confidential Information would harm Border's competitive position in the marketplace. (See attached Affidavit of Andrew Mitrey, President, Border Energy Electric Services, Inc.)

The protection of trade secret information from public disclosure is consistent with the purposes of Title 49 because the Commission and its Staff have access to the information.

Granting protection of the Confidential Information requested herein will not impair the Commission's regulatory responsibilities.

Confidential treatment of Table 1 of the Report is therefore both appropriate and required by Ohio law and the Commission's rules. For the foregoing reasons, Border Energy Electric Services, Inc. prays that its Motion for Protective Order be granted.

### Respectfully submitted,

BORDER ENERGY ELECTRIC SERVICES, INC.

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#### AFFIDAVIT OF ANDREW MITREY

STATE OF OHIO

**COUNTY OF DELAWARE** 

NOW COMES Andrew Mitrey, being first duly cautioned and sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- I am President of Border Energy Electric Services, Inc. ("Border"), 4145 Powell Rd.,
   Powell, Ohio 43065. I make this Affidavit on behalf of Border, and do so in the ordinary discharge of my responsibilities.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of all relevant matters pertaining to the Alternative Energy Portfolio Status Report and Plan for Compliance with Future Renewable Energy Benchmarks (the "Report") that Border is contemporaneously filing with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. I am authorized to make this Affidavit on behalf of Border.
- 3. Border considers its projected "baselines," i.e. its forecasted retail electric loads, for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015, and its future renewable energy compliance obligations included within Table 1 of the Report (the "Forecasted Load and REC Information") to be confidential.
- 4. The Forecasted Load and REC Information is not otherwise available to the general public, and includes detail about the operations of Border that would be of significant

interest to competitors. Consequently, Border is requesting that the Forecasted Load and REC Information not be disclosed to the public.

5. The Forecasted Load and REC Information derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can derive economic value from its disclosure or

use.

6. The Forecasted Load and REC Information is provided only to Border's senior

management and a restricted list of employees who have a particular need to know the

Information.

7. The Forecasted Load and REC Information is indicative of Border's current and future

business plans and, therefore, public disclosure of the Forecasted Load and REC

Information would place Border at a competitive and economic disadvantage.

8. The Forecasted Load and REC Information is the subject of efforts by Border that are

reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

9. Border has expended a significant amount of time and money to develop the Forecasted

Load and REC Information, Disclosure of the Forecasted Load and REC Information

would harm Border's competitive position in the marketplace.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

Andrew Mitrey

Nel

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this  $\mu \to 0$  day of April, 2013.

LINDA K DUNAWAY

Notary Public
In and for the State of Oh
My Commission Expires
June 10, 20\_12