

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Ohio	)	
Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric	)	
Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison	)	Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO
Company for Authority to Provide for a	)	
Standard Service Offer Pursuant to R.C.	)	
§4928.143 in the Form of an Electric Security	)	
Plan.	,	

## AMENDED JOINT MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

Pursuant to Rule 4901-1-24(D), Ohio Administrative Code, the PJM Power Providers Group ("P3") and the Electric Power Supply Association ("EPSA") file this amended joint motion for a protective order seeking confidential treatment of certain information referenced in the Initial Brief of P3 and EPSA filed on February 16, 2016 and the Reply Brief of P3 and EPSA which is being filed this same day. A Joint Motion for Protective Order was filed on February 16 and is still pending and two unredacted copies of the Initial Brief were submitted under seal on February 16. This amended joint motion seeks confidential treatment of information deemed confidential by Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company. The underlying reasons are detailed in the attached memorandum.

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Consistent with the above-cited rule, two unredacted copies of the Reply Brief of P3 and EPSA are being submitted under seal.

Respectfully submitted,

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## MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE AMENDED JOINT MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

The PJM Power Providers Group ("P3") and the Electric Power Supply Association ("EPSA") respectfully request that certain information referenced in the P3 and EPSA Initial Brief and Reply Brief, namely, certain testimony of Dr. Joseph Kalt and information from confidential portions of the hearing be protected from public disclosure consistent with the prior treatment of that information in this proceeding. The information for which protection is sought describes and discusses or is derived from information that Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company (collectively "FirstEnergy") has asserted is confidential and proprietary and would harm FirstEnergy if released to the public. In addition, this information has been given confidential treatment by the Attorney Examiners already in this proceeding.

Rule 4901-1-24(D), Ohio Administrative Code, provides that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") or certain designated employees may issue an order which is necessary to protect the confidentiality of information contained in documents filed with the Commission's Docketing Division to the extent that state or federal law prohibits the release of the information and where non-disclosure of the information is not inconsistent with the purposes of Title 49 of the Revised Code. State law recognizes the need to protect certain types of information that are the subject of this motion. The non-disclosure of the information will not impair the purposes of Title 49. The Commission and its Staff have full access to the information in order to fulfill its statutory obligations. No purpose of Title 49 would be served by the public disclosure of the information.

While the Commission has often expressed its preference for open proceedings, the Commission also long ago recognized its statutory obligations with regard to trade secrets:

The Commission is of the opinion that the "public records" statute must also be read <u>in pari materia</u> with Section 1333.31, Revised Code ("trade secrets" statute). The latter statute must be interpreted as evincing the recognition, on the part of the General Assembly, of the value of trade secret information.

In re: General Telephone Co., Case No. 81-383-TP-AIR, Entry (February 17, 1982). Likewise, the Commission has facilitated the protection of trade secrets in its rules. See, Rule 4901-1-24(A)(7), Ohio Administrative Code.

The definition of a "trade secret" is set forth in the Uniform Trade Secrets Act:

"Trade secret" means information, including the whole or any portion or phase of any scientific or technical information, design, process, procedure, formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, or improvement, or any business information or plans, financial information or listing of names, addresses, or telephone numbers, that satisfies both of the following:

- (1) It 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 obtain economic value from its disclosure or use.
- (2) It is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

Section 1333.61(D), Revised Code. This definition clearly reflects the state policy favoring the protection of trade secrets such as the financial information which is the subject of this motion.

In State ex rel. The Plain Dealer v. Ohio Dept. of Ins. (1997), 80 Ohio St.3d 513, the Ohio Supreme Court adopted a six-factor test to analyze whether information is a trade secret under the statute:

- (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.

Id. at 524-525, quoting Pyromatics, Inc. v. Petruziello, 7 Ohio App. 3d 131, 134-135 (Cuyahoga County 1983).

Accepting FirstEnergy's claims of confidentiality, noting that the Attorney Examiners have afforded this information confidential treatment already, and applying these factors to the redacted portions of the Initial Brief and the Reply Brief of P3 and EPSA warrants the granting of the requested protective order. The information referenced in the P3 and EPSA Initial Brief and Reply Brief have been found by the Attorney Examiners to warrant confidential treatment earlier in this proceeding. Thus, the information referenced in the Initial Brief and Reply Brief of P3 and EPSA may be maintained as confidential.

WHEREFORE, for the above reasons, P3 and EPSA respectfully request that the Commission grant their joint amended motion for protective order and maintain the subject portions of their Initial Brief and Reply Brief under seal.

Respectfully submitted,

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on the parties referenced in the service list of the docket card who have electronically subscribed to this case. In addition, the undersigned certifies that a courtesy copy of the foregoing document is also being served upon the persons below via electronic mail this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016 11.

Michael J. Settineri

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