

FILE

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Ohio

Public Utilities
Commission

Original GAG Case Number	Version
10 - 712 -EL-GAG	August 2004

RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR ELECTRIC GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATORS

Please print or type all required information. Identify all attachments with an exhibit label and title (Example: Exhibit A-4 Opt-Out Form). All attachments should bear the legal name of the Applicant and should be included on the electronic copy provided. Applicants should file completed applications and all related correspondence with: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215-3793.

This PDF form is designed so that you may input information directly onto the form.
You may also download the form, by saving it to your local disk, for later use.

A. RENEWAL INFORMATION

A-1 Applicant's legal name, address, telephone number, PUCO certificate number, and web site address

Legal Name Board of Erie County Commissioners
Address 2900 Columbus Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870
PUCO Certificate # and Date Certified 10-218E; June 26, 2020
Telephone # (419) 627-7682 Web site address (if any) www.eriecounty.oh.gov

A-2 Exhibit A-2 "Authorizing Ordinance" provide a copy of the ordinance or resolution authorizing the formation of a governmental aggregation program adopted pursuant to Section 4928.20(A) of the Revised Code.

A-3 Exhibit A-3 "Operation and Governance Plan" provide a copy of the applicant's current plan for operation and governance of its aggregation program adopted pursuant to Section 4928.20(C) of the Revised Code. The Operation and Governance Plan explained in Exhibit A-3 should include:

- Terms and conditions of enrollment including:
 - Rates
 - Charges
 - Switching fees, if any
- Policies associated with customers moving into/out of aggregation area
- Billing procedures
- Procedures for handling complaints and disputes including the toll-free telephone number and address for customer contacts

PUCO

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This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician AW Date Processed 5/7/20

A-4 Exhibit A-4 Automatic Aggregation Disclosure-"Opt-out Form" provide a copy of the disclosures/"opt-out" required by Section 4928.20(D) of the Revised Code, if its aggregation program provides for automatic aggregation in accordance with Section 4928.20(A) of the Revised Code. If the opt-out is in draft form, docket the final opt-out (including beginning and ending dates of the 21-day -out period and the selected CRES supplier) with the Commission within 10 days prior to providing or offering service. See #12 in the attached Affidavit

A-5 Contact person for regulatory or emergency matters

Name Mark R. Frye
Title Energy Consultant for Erie County Commissioners
Business address 5577 Airport Highway, Suite 101, Toledo, OH 43615
Telephone # (419) 539-9180 Fax # (419) 539-9185
E-mail address mfrye@palmerenergy.com

A-6 Contact person for Commission Staff use in investigating customer complaints

Name Mark R. Frye
Title Energy Consultant for Erie County Commissioners
Business address 5577 Airport Highway, Suite 101, Toledo, OH 43615
Telephone # (419) 539-9180 Fax # (419) 539-9185
E-mail address mfrye@palmerenergy.com

A-7 Applicant's address and toll-free number for customer service and complaints

Customer Service address 5577 Airport Highway, Suite 101, Toledo, OH 43615
Toll-free Telephone # (419) 539-9180 Fax # (419) 539-9185
E-mail address mfrye@palmerenergy.com


Signature of Applicant & Title
ADMINISTRATOR

Sworn and subscribed before me this 20th day of April, 2020
Month Year


Signature of official administering oath

Carolyn L. Hauenstein
Print Name and Title Clerk of the Board

My commission expires on _____ CAROLYN L. HAUENSTEIN
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF OHIO
My Commission Expires March 8, 2021



AFFIDAVIT

State of Ohio :

Sandusky ss
(Town)

County of Erie

Peter S. Daniel, Affiant, being duly sworn/affirmed according to law, deposes and says that

He/She is the Administrator (Office of Affiant) of the Board of (Name of Applicant).

Erie County Commissioners

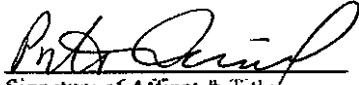
That he/she is authorized to and does make this affidavit for said Applicant.

1. The Applicant herein, attests under penalty of false statement that all statements made in the application for certification renewal are true and complete and that it will amend its application while the application is pending if any substantial changes occur regarding the information provided in the application
2. The Applicant herein, attests it will timely file an annual report with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio of its intrastate gross receipts, gross earnings, and sales of kilowatt-hours of electricity pursuant to Division (A) of Section 4905.10, Division (A) of Section 4911.18, and Division (F) of Section 4928.06 of the Revised Code
3. The Applicant herein, attests that it will timely pay any assessments made pursuant to Sections 4905.10, 4911.18, or Division F of Section 4928.06 of the Revised Code.
4. The Applicant herein, attests that it will comply with all Public Utilities Commission of Ohio rules or orders as adopted pursuant to Chapter 4928 of the Revised Code
5. The Applicant herein, attests that it will cooperate fully with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and its Staff on any utility matter including the investigation of any consumer complaint regarding any service offered or provided by the Applicant.
6. The Applicant herein, attests that it will fully comply with Section 4928.09 of the Revised Code regarding consent to the jurisdiction of Ohio Courts and the service of process.
7. The Applicant herein, attests that it will comply with all state and/or federal rules and regulations concerning consumer protection, the environment, and advertising/promotions
8. The Applicant herein, attests that it will use its best efforts to verify that any entity with whom it has a contractual relationship to purchase power is in compliance with all applicable licensing requirements of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
9. The Applicant herein, attests that it will cooperate fully with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, the electric distribution companies, the regional transmission entities, and other electric suppliers in the event of an emergency condition that may jeopardize the safety and reliability of the electric service in accordance with the emergency plans and other procedures as may be determined appropriate by the Commission.
10. If applicable to the service(s) the Applicant will provide, the Applicant herein, attests that it will adhere to the reliability standards of (1) the North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC), (2) the appropriate regional reliability council(s), and (3) the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (only applicable if pertains to the services the Applicant is offering)

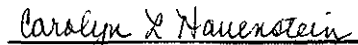
11 The Applicant herein, attests that it will inform the Commission of any material change to the information supplied in the renewal application within 30 days of such material change, including any change in contact person for regulatory purposes or contact person for Staff use in investigating customer complaints.

12. The Applicant herein, attests that if the opt-out is in draft form, the Applicant will docket the final opt-out (including beginning and ending dates of the 21-day opt-out period and the selected CRES supplier) with the Commission within 10 days prior to providing or offering service.

That the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge, information, and belief and that he/she expects said Applicant to be able to prove the same at any hearing hereof.


Signature of Affiant & Title
R. M. W. STRAYER

Sworn and subscribed before me this 20th day of April, 2020
Month Year


Signature of official administering oath

Carolyn L. Hauenstein
Print Name and Title Clerk of the Board

My commission expires on _____ CAROLYN L. HAUENSTEIN
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF OHIO
My Commission Expires March 8, 2021



Erie County

Exhibit A-2

Authorizing Ordinance/Resolution

Resolution to Authorize Amendments to the Erie County Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance

WHEREAS, the Ohio legislature has enacted electric deregulation legislation which authorizes the legislative authorities of townships and counties to aggregate the retail electrical loads located within the respective jurisdictions and to enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the purchase and sale of electricity; and

WHEREAS, governmental aggregations provides an opportunity for residential and small business consumers to participate collectively in the potential benefits of electricity deregulation through lower electricity rates which would not otherwise be available to those electricity customers individually, and

WHEREAS, On May 4, 2010 a majority of voters in various communities in Erie County, Ohio approved a referendum that approved the formation of an "opt-out" governmental aggregation program pursuant to Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code for the residents, businesses and other electric consumers in the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Erie County Commissioners, State of Ohio:

WHEREAS, The County desires to change its aggregation consultant and finds that certain other updates are needed in the Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance.

Be It Resolved by the Board of Erie County Commissioners:

Section 1: That the Board hereby adopt the Amended Erie County Commissioners Plan of Operation and Governance, (attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A-3) for the implementation and administration of the County's electric aggregation program in accordance with Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.

It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of Commissioners of Erie County concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of Commissioners of Erie County and that the deliberations of this Board of Commissioners of Erie County and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Date of Passage: 4-20-2020

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,

Carolyn L. Hansen, Title Clerk of the Board

_____, Title _____

Erie County

Exhibit A-3

Operation and Governance Plan

**Board of Erie County
Commissioners**

**Amended
Electric Power
Aggregation
Plan of Operation and
Governance**

April 20 2020

Board of Erie County Commissioners

Electric Governmental Aggregation

Plan of Operation and Governance

- I. **INTRODUCTION.** On May 4, 2010 a majority of voters in County of Erie, Ohio, approved a referendum that authorized the formation of an “opt-out” governmental aggregation in compliance with Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding the governmental aggregation of electric service consumers. While initially intended for this County approval the following Plan of Governance may also eventually include other communities in the County of provided they pass a governmental aggregation referendum by the majority of voters in that community, to join the County of Erie, Ohio “opt-out” governmental aggregation and obtain approval from the PUCO.

These communities that may decide to utilize their aggregation authority jointly through County of Erie, Ohio are permitted to do so under Section 4928.20 (A) of the Ohio Revised Code.

(“County” or “County of Erie”) anticipates that utilizing its aggregation authority will provide individual residential and small commercial consumers benefits such as price reductions that these consumers are typically unable to obtain since they lack the bargaining power, expertise and the economies of scale enjoyed by larger consumers.

- II. **PROCESS.** Under an opt-out aggregation program, all residential and small business customers in the authorized areas of the County are automatically included as participants in the Aggregation Program unless they opt-out of the program by providing written notice of their intention not to participate. As required by Ohio Law, the various communities jointly participating in the County of Erie governmental aggregation passed a Resolution or Ordinance, which authorized submitting the selection of opt-out aggregation to the community’s voters.

In addition to obtaining necessary voter approvals, County of Erie is also required to comply with various PUCO regulations. As required by PUCO regulations the County will file an application with the PUCO for certification as a Government Aggregator after the County Approves this Aggregation Plan of Operations and Governance (“Plan” or “Aggregation Plan”). As required by regulations, the County advertised public hearing dates to discuss the Plan and held two hearings on the Plan.

The County anticipates selection of a Provider prior to or shortly after receiving approval from the PUCO as a governmental aggregator. Upon Provider selection an Opt-out notice for the County Program will be sent to all eligible electric customers setting forth the rates, terms and conditions of the program. This notice will provide potential Aggregation participants at least 21 days to return an opt-out card or other similar notice.

- III. **CONTRACT.** The supply contract (“Contract”) negotiated between the Governmental Aggregator and the selected Provider shall be for firm, full requirements power supply. Each Aggregation participant shall be individually bound by the terms and conditions found in the

opt-out notice and the Contract and shall be solely responsible for payment and performance. The power supply charges for Aggregation participants shall be negotiated and included in the Contract. These charges shall take the form of either a fixed price or a price representing a percentage below the electric distribution utility's ("EDU") avoidable costs ("Avoidable") or Price to compare ("PTC"). These charges will be fully and prominently disclosed in the consumer opt-out materials provided to potential Aggregation participants and available by calling the Provider's toll free customer service telephone number.

The County's Retail Electric Generation Provider shall meet each of the following requirements:

- Has sufficient power supplies arranged and structure in place to provide retail firm power to the Members.
- Has a Federal Power Marketer license with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- Is certified as a CRES by the PUCO.
- Registered as a generation supplier with the EDU prior to flowing power to Members.
- Has appropriate Transmission Service agreement(s) in place to serve the Members.
- Has or has arranged for an Electronic Data Interchange computer network that is capable of handling the County's Members requirements with the EDU.
- Has the ability to educate Members on the County's Aggregation Program.
- Has or has arranged for a call center capable of handling the County's Aggregation Group customer calls.
- Has a toll-free number as required by the PUCO for customer service inquiries and potential complaints related to the County's Program.
- Will hold the County financially harmless from any financial obligations arising from supplying power to the Members.
- Satisfies the EDU's and County's credit requirements.
- Will assist the County and its consultant in filing reports required by the PUCO and Sections 4805.10(A), 4911.18(A) and 4928.06(F) of the Ohio Revised Code.

IV. **DEFINITIONS.** In order to clarify certain terminology, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

"Aggregation Program" or "Program" means the program developed by the County, as a Government Aggregator under Section 4928.20 Ohio Revised Code, to provide eligible residential and small business consumers with retail electric generation services.

"Government Aggregator" means County of Erie using its legislative authority to act as an aggregator for the provision of a competitive retail electric service under the authority conferred under Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.

"Member" or "Aggregation Participant" means a person or consumer enrolled in the County of Erie Program for competitive retail electric services.

"Retail Electric Generation Provider" ("Provider") means an entity certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") to provide competitive retail electric service(s), and which is chosen by the County to be the entity responsible to provide the required service related to Government Aggregation as defined in Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code and applicable provisions of the rules of the PUCO.

“Competitive Retail Electric Service” (“CRES”) means a component of electric retail service that is deemed competitive pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code or pursuant to an order of the PUCO.

- V. **GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATION SERVICES.** Government aggregation, the combining of multiple electric loads by a governmental entity, provides a means for residential consumers and small commercial consumers in the County to obtain economic benefits from Ohio’s competitive retail electric market. The County Aggregation Program combines the electric loads of residential customers and small commercial consumers into a buying group (“Aggregation Group”). The County will act as Purchasing Agent for the Aggregation Group. This means that the County will be a Governmental Aggregator, as defined by Ohio law and the rules established by the PUCO, and shall act on behalf of eligible residential and small commercial consumers in the County to: 1) select a Retail Electric Generation Provider (“Provider”) to supply the Aggregation Group; 2) negotiate the terms of supply between the Provider and each Aggregation participant; and 3) oversee the enrollment procedures administered by the Provider.
- A. **Provider:** The County will use its Provider to perform and manage aggregation services for its Members. The Provider shall provide adequate, accurate, and understandable pricing terms and conditions of service, including any switching fees and the conditions under which a Member may rescind a contract without penalty. The Provider must provide the County or its authorized consultant, if requested, an electronic file containing the Members usage, and charges. Upon request this information shall be sent to the County or its authorized consultant within 30 days. The Provider must have local and/or a toll free number for Members to call.
- B. **Database:** The Retail Electric Generation Provider will build and maintain a database of all Members. The database will include all necessary information for the provider and the County to serve the Aggregation. This information includes but is not limited to the name, address, account number or other EDU identifying number(s), and Retail Electric Generation Provider’s account number of the Member, and other pertinent information such as rate code, rider code (if applicable), most recent 12 months of usage and demand, and meter read cycle. This database will be updated and provided to the County and/or its consultant periodically. Accordingly, the Provider will implement a process to accommodate at Members that: 1) leave the program due to relocation, opting out, etc.; 2) decide to enter or opt-into the Program; 3) relocate within eligible areas within the County ; and 4) move into the County and desire to enter or opt-in to the Program. The Retail Electric Generation Provider will use this database to perform bill audits for clerical and mathematical accuracy of Member bills.
- C. **Member Education:** The Provider will develop, with the assistance of the County and its authorized consultant, an educational program that generally explains the Aggregation Program to Members, provides updates and disclosures mandated by Ohio law and PUCO rules, and implements a process to deal with allowing any person enrolled in the Aggregation Program the opportunity to opt out of the program at least every three years, without paying a switching fee to the County or the Provider.
- D. **Customer Service:** The County will administer a customer service process that, at a minimum, will accommodate: 1) Member inquiries and complaints about billing; and 2) answer questions regarding the Program in general. This process will, at a minimum, include a description of

how telephone inquiries will be handled (either internally or externally), how invoices will be prepared, how remittance of payment will be dealt with, and how collections for delinquent accounts will be addressed. See Appendix B for a detailed description of the Customer Service Plan.

- E. Billing: The County will use the Provider, or its designated agent, to provide billing services to each Member for the Competitive Retail Electric Services, with no additional administrative fee. At this time, the EDU will render the billing statement, which should be consistent with all applicable guidelines issued by the PUCO. As this market develops, the County may, at its option and in consultation with the Provider, change this function to the Retail Electric Generation Provider or a billing agency.
- F. Compliance Process: The Provider will have internal controls and processes that ensure the County remains in good standing as a Government Aggregator and that it complies with all laws, rules and regulations surrounding the same, as they may be amended from time to time. The Provider will deliver periodic reports to the County and its consultant that will include at a minimum (i) the number of Members participating in the Program; and (ii) a savings estimate or increase from the previous year's baseline. The Provider will also develop a process to monitor and provide notification to the County of any changes in laws, rules or regulations.
- G. Notification to EDU: The County's potential Aggregation participants that do not opt-out of the Aggregation Group will be enrolled automatically in the Aggregation Program. Members in the Aggregation Group will not be asked to take other affirmative steps in order to be included in the Group. To the extent that the EDU requires notification of participation, the County will coordinate with its Provider to provide such notice to the EDU. The Provider will inform the EDU of any individuals who may have been permitted to join the Aggregation Group after the expiration of the enrollment period.
- H. Activation of Service. After a notice is sent out to all electric customers in the County providing 21 days to opt out of the Program, all customers who do not opt out will be automatically enrolled in the Program. During this opt-out period eligible consumers may opt-out of the County's Aggregation Group without fees charged by the Provider or the County. Generation service activation will occur thereafter without consumer action beginning on the customer's normal meter read date within the month when power deliveries begin under the Aggregation Program.
- I. Changes, Extension or Renewal of Service. At least every three years all consumers eligible to participate in the County's Program will be given an opportunity to opt into or out of the Program, and reasonable notice will be provided as required by law and PUCO rules. Participants will also be notified of their right to select an alternate generation supplier and of their ability to return to EDU's Standard Service Offer.
- J. Termination of Service. In the event that the Contract is terminated prior to the end of the term, each individual Member of the Aggregation Group will receive written notification of the termination of the Program at least sixty (60) days prior to termination of service. If the Contract is not extended or renewed, Members will be notified as required by law and the CRES rules of the PUCO in advance of the end of service. Members will also be notified of their right to select an alternate generation supplier and of their ability to return to the EDU's Standard Service Offer upon termination.

- K. Opt-In Procedures. Eligible consumers may request to join the Aggregation Group after the expiration of any enrollment period by contacting the Provider. The Contract shall determine whether the Provider accepts them into the Program, and, if so, at what rate. The agreed upon policy in the Contract shall be consistent with the EDU's service activation requirements. Aggregation Group participants who move from one location to another within eligible areas of the County shall retain their participant status.
- L. Opt-out Outside Enrollment Period. Members who switch to a different generation supplier after the expiration of the Opt-out period will be allowed to do so in correlation with the consumer's next scheduled meter read date but may be charged a switching fee in an amount and method determined by the Contract. Switching to a different generation supplier on the next meter read date, however, will occur when the next meter read date is twelve (12) business days or more from the date of the consumer's notice of intent to opt-out of the Aggregation Group. Notification of intent to opt-out of the Aggregation Group may be made by contacting the Provider by telephone or in writing. Members who opt-out of the Aggregation Group will default to the EDU's Standard Service Offer, until the consumer selects an alternate generation supplier.
- M. Eligibility. Only non-mercantile consumers shall be eligible for the Program through the opt-out process. Other eligibility restrictions such as peak demand or use may be negotiated within the Contract.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES

- A. The Board of County Commissions, County of Erie shall approve through Resolution or Ordinance the Plan of Operation and Governance for the Aggregation program and any Amendments thereto.
- B. The County will require any Provider to disclose any subcontractors that it uses in fulfillment of the services described above.
- C. The County will require the Provider to maintain either a toll free telephone number, or a telephone number that is local to County Program Members.

VII. LIABILITY. THE COUNTY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO MEMBERS IN THE AGGREGATION GROUP FOR ANY CLAIMS WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF THE AGGREGATION PROGRAM OR THE PROVISION OF AGGREGATION SERVICES BY THE COUNTY OR THE PROVIDER. AGGREGATION GROUP MEMBERS SHALL ASSERT ANY SUCH CLAIMS SOLELY AGAINST THE PROVIDER PURSUANT TO THE POWER SUPPLY AGREEMENT, UNDER WHICH SUCH PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPRESS THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES.

VIII. **INFORMATION AND COMPLAINT NUMBERS**

Potential participants can receive more information about the program or Copies of this Plan from Erie County free of charge by calling 419-627-7682.

Any electric customer, including any participant in the County's Aggregation Program, may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for information, or to make a complaint against the Program, the Provider or EDU. The PUCO may be reached toll free at 1-800-686-7826.

Appendix A -- Education Process

The Provider will develop an educational program in conjunction with the County and its energy consultant. Its purpose will be to explain the aggregation program to County Members, provide updates and disclosures as mandated by State law and the rules of the PUCO, and provide the opportunity for the members to opt out of the program. The following are the program components:

1. Each eligible consumer within the County limits will receive via U.S. Mail notification of: what government aggregation means, their membership in the government aggregation program, the procedure which must be followed in order to opt out of the program, the price that they can expect to receive as a member of the program, and the deadline for returning the opt out form. See the attached letter.
2. The Provider will work with the County to provide opportunities for educating eligible County consumers about the Program and their rights under the law, PUCO rules and this Program. In addition, the Provider and County will work to provide education about and other opportunities for energy efficiency measures to help consumers reduce energy consumption.
3. The Provider will provide updates and disclosures as mandated by State law and rules of the PUCO.
4. The opt-out opportunity will be provided to the Members of the program at least every three years. Should conditions, suppliers, price, or any other component of the program change within the three-year period, participants will be given a notice of their opportunity to opt out of, or into the program.

Appendix B --- Customer Service Plan

A. Member Access:

1. Provider shall ensure Members reasonable access to their service representatives for inquiries, complaints, to discuss charges on Member bills, and transact any other business.
2. Telephone access shall be toll free and afford Members prompt answer times during normal business hours, as follows:

_____ Corporation
Address: _____
City: _____, _____
Toll-free telephone number: 1- _____
Hours: _____

3. Provider shall provide a 24-hour automated telephone message instructing callers to report any service interruptions or electrical emergencies to the EDU with appropriate phone numbers.

B. Member Complaints:

1. Provider shall investigate Member complaints (including complaints referred by EDU) and provide a status report within five calendar days following receipt of the complaint to:
 - a. The consumer, when the complaint is made directly to Provider; or
 - b. The consumer and The PUCO Staff ("Commission Staff"), when a complaint is referred to Provider by the Commission Staff.
2. If an investigation is not completed within 14 calendar days, Provider shall provide status reports to the consumer and the County, or if applicable, to the consumer, the County, the County consultant and the Commission Staff. Such status reports shall be provided at five-day intervals until the investigation is complete, unless the action that must be taken will require more than five days and the Member has been so notified.
3. Provider shall inform the Member, or the Member, the County, County consultant and Commission Staff, of the results of the investigation, orally or in writing, no later than five calendar days after completion of the investigation. The consumer, the County, the County consultant, or Commission Staff may request the report in writing.
4. If a residential consumer disputes the Provider report, it shall inform the consumer that the Commission Staff is available to help resolve informal complaints. Provider shall provide the consumer with the current address, local/toll free telephone numbers, and TDD/TTY telephone numbers of the Commission's consumer services department.

5. Provider shall retain records of Member complaints, investigations, and complaint resolutions for one year after the occurrence of such complaints, and shall provide such records to the Commission Staff within five calendar days of request.
6. Provider shall make good faith efforts to resolve disputes.

C. Member Billing and Payments

The County will use the Provider, or its designated agent, to provide billing services to each Member for the Competitive Retail Electric Services, with no additional administrative fee. At this time, the EDU will render the billing statement, which should be consistent with all applicable guidelines issued by the PUCO. As this market develops, the County may, at its option and in consultation with the Provider, change this function to the Retail Electric Generation Provider or a billing agency.

D. Collections for delinquent accounts:

The EDU's credit and collection policies will apply to Program Members and shall be administered by the EDU. Neither the Governmental Aggregator, nor the Provider, will implement additional policies with respect to credit, deposits and collections. Failure to pay for Competitive Retail Electric Services may result in cancellation of the Member's contract with the Provider, and return the Member to the EDU's Standard Service Offer.

Erie County

Exhibit A-4

Automatic Aggregation Disclosure – Opt-out Form



December 23, 2019

<First> <Last> or Current Resident

<Mailing Address>

<Mailing City>, <Mailing State> <Mailing Zip>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM

BOARD OF ERIE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND AEP
ENERGY REGARDING YOUR ELECTRICITY SERVICE AT

<S ADDRESS>

Dear <First> <Last>:

Board of Erie County Commissioners set a new secure electric price of 4.565 cents per kWh for your electricity supply charges.

The Board of Erie County Commissioners continues to provide its residents and businesses in Berlin Township, Florence Township, Groton Township, Huron Township, Margaretta Township, Milan Township, Oxford Township, Perkins Township and Vermilion Township with an opportunity to save money on their electricity supply. **On May 4, 2010, Erie County voters authorized by majority vote the creation of an Electric Aggregation Program in each of the townships to seek lower electricity rates for eligible residential and small business customers. The Townships authorized the County to aggregate the eligible residential and small business customers, and the County approved a Plan of Operation and Governance as prescribed by Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.** Under this arrangement, AEP Energy has been selected as Erie County's preferred electricity supply provider. This special offer is exclusive for eligible residents and businesses of the County because through the power of volume buying, AEP Energy is able to secure electricity at competitive prices. AEP Energy is an Ohio-based company.

THE COUNTY ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PROGRAM IS A SMART CHOICE:

Receive Protection with a Secure Price. Through the County Electric Aggregation Program, eligible residents and businesses will receive the secure price of **4.565 cents per kWh** for a period of **eighteen (18) months** starting with the **February 2020** meter-read date. You will find additional details of this program in the Terms & Conditions and Frequently Asked Questions on the back of this letter.

Continue to Receive One Bill. Your local utility will continue to send you one monthly electricity bill. You can continue to remit one payment to your local utility for AEP Energy charges. Also, your local utility will continue to provide service for any emergency or maintenance issues.

No Cancellation Fee. There is no charge to cancel your contract at any time.

YOU WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE ENROLLED.

You don't have to do anything and there is no cost to enroll in this exclusive program. All eligible residents and businesses located in the County will automatically be enrolled in the program unless you choose to opt-out by following the instructions listed below.

HOW DO I OPT-OUT?

If you do not wish to participate in this program, you must opt-out by January 13, 2020. There are two ways to opt-out:



Phone - Call AEP Energy Customer Care Team toll free at 1-877-726-0214
Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm EST & Saturday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm EST



Mail - Complete the Electric Aggregation Opt-Out Election Form below and return it to the address listed on the form by
January 13, 2020

Respectfully,

Board of Erie County Commissioners & AEP Energy

AEP Energy is a competitive retail electric service provider and an affiliate of Ohio Power Company (AEP Ohio). AEP Energy is not soliciting on behalf of and is not an agent of AEP Ohio.



THE ERIE COUNTY ELECTRIC AGGREGATION OPT-OUT ELECTION FORM

Please print clearly.

<First> <Last>

Account Number: <Account Number>

<Service Address>

<Service City>, <Service State> <Service Zip>

Account Holder's Name: (Print)

Phone: (____) _____

Account Holder's Signature:

Date: _____

Email Address: _____

This form must be postmarked no later than January 13, 2020 for your "opt-out" to be effective.

Enclosed Terms & Conditions Version: 070119OH_ERIE_AGG_SC3ResCon
FE19.12.23_ERIECOR-RE_AGG_AQ & FE19.12.23_ERIECOS-RE_AGG_AQ.1



I elect not to participate in the County Electric
Aggregation Program with AEP Energy.
Customer Code <Customer Code>

IMPORTANT NOTICE: By returning this signed form, I affirmatively elect NOT to participate in the County Electric Aggregation Program. By electing not to participate, I understand from the accompanying materials that I will forego the benefits of this program. I understand that if I choose to "opt-out" of the County Electric Aggregation Program, I must complete this form and mail it to AEP Energy or call AEP Energy toll free at 1-877-726-0214, to "opt-out" no later than January 13, 2020. If this form is not postmarked or I do not call by the specified date, I understand that I will be automatically enrolled in the County Electric Aggregation Program. I assume all responsibility to send this "Opt-Out" Election Form or to call AEP Energy.

Complete form and mail to:

AEP Energy
Attn: County Electric Aggregation Program
PO Box 3439
Chicago, IL 60654

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An AEP Company

RESIDENTIAL & SMALL COMMERCIAL TERMS & CONDITIONS ("Agreement")

TERM	GENERATION SERVICE CHARGES	CANCELLATION FEE	CONTRACT RENEWAL
Up to the August 2021 meter read date ("Term").	Residential Customers: <u>4.565¢ per kWh.</u> Small Commercial Customers: <u>4.565¢ per kWh.</u> Price is for Generation Service. Price excludes taxes, utility Distribution Service charges, Transmission Services and other Non-bypassable utility charges and fees.	You may cancel at any time during the Term without penalty. See Section 6 for details.	Your Agreement will terminate after the initial term. See Section 8 for details.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: These Terms and Conditions (this "Agreement") are your agreement for Generation Service with AEP Energy, Inc. ("AEP Energy"). Please keep a copy of this Agreement for your records. AEP Energy is certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") to offer and supply Generation Service in Ohio. As a Competitive Retail Electric Service ("CRES") provider, AEP Energy will supply the electric generation services to the interconnection (the "Delivery Point") of your local electric public utility or any successor entity that distributes electricity to you ("EDU") based on your usage. Your local electric public utility will continue to be your EDU. All of your retail electric energy service will be supplied and delivered under your community's electric aggregation program (the "Program"), which is governed by the Government Aggregation Master Retail Electric Supply Agreement between the relevant government aggregator and AEP Energy (the "Program Agreement"). You participate in the Program either by (1) not electing to opt out of the Program (i.e., by not returning a completed Program "opt-out" election form (as included in any informational letter provided with this Agreement) or by not otherwise contacting AEP Energy as prescribed) or (2) being an eligible customer residing in the relevant jurisdictional territory applicable under the Program Agreement (not otherwise included in the most recent "opt-out" process) that enters into this Agreement directly with AEP Energy, in each case, subject to any exercise of your rescission right (as described under "Right of Rescission"). Your EDU then distributes or delivers the electricity to you. Your Distribution Service will remain with your current EDU, which is regulated by the PUCO. Your EDU also will continue to read your meter, provide your monthly bill and respond to emergencies. The words "we", "us", and "our" refer to AEP Energy, and the words "you" and "your" refer to the customer.

CERTAIN DEFINITIONS: "Competitive Retail Electric Service Provider" or "CRES" provider means, as defined by Chapter 4901:1-21 of the Substantive Rules applicable to electric service providers, an entity that sells electric energy to retail customers in Ohio. "Generation Service" means the production of electricity. "Generation-Related Charges" means those charges or costs associated with the production, procurement and supply of electricity. "Non-bypassable utility charges and fees" means those EDU charges and fees payable by you regardless of whether the EDU or a

CRES provider provides Generation Service. "Transmission Service" means moving high voltage electricity from a generation facility to the distribution lines of an EDU, which is either bypassable or non-bypassable to you, as determined in accordance with your Distribution Service. "Distribution Service" means the physical delivery of electricity to customers by the EDU. "Billing Cycle" means, with respect to a customer account, the monthly period between meter read dates during the Term.

RIGHT OF RESCISSION: Once you have been enrolled to receive Generation Service from AEP Energy, your EDU will send you a confirmation letter. You have the right to rescind your enrollment without penalty within seven (7) calendar days following the postmark date of the confirmation letter by contacting your EDU orally at the designated toll-free or local number in such letter or in writing and following the instructions contained in the letter.

OTHER IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES: In the event a third party was involved in this Agreement, including, without limitation, a broker or a shopping website, or you are part of a municipal aggregation, the pricing contained herein may be inclusive of a broker fee. **Price Comparison Qualification:** Please be advised that the EDU's standard offer service rates generally change from time to time. AEP Energy therefore does not provide any guarantee of savings in comparison to the EDU's standard offer service rates during the Term of this Agreement. If you received any price comparison(s) in connection with your enrollment, by accepting this offer from AEP Energy, you understand and agree that AEP Energy has informed you, prior to entering into this Agreement, that no guarantee of savings during the Term is being provided.

1. Eligibility. Customers must reside within the relevant jurisdictional territory applicable under the Program Agreement. Residential customer accounts that are on residential rates codes and are not enrolled in the Percentage of Income Plan Program (PIPP) and non-national account small commercial customers with annual usage less than 700,000 kWh are eligible for this offer from AEP Energy. AEP Energy reserves the right to refuse enrollment to any customer that is not current on their Non-bypassable utility charges and fees.

2. Price. Starting with the first Billing Cycle of this Agreement through the last Billing Cycle of the "Term" (as listed in the table above), you agree to pay AEP Energy the price stated in the table above under "Generation Service Charges" for all kilowatt-hours ("kWh") of all applicable combined Generation Service and Generation-Related Charges metered by the EDU. You are responsible for, and your price does not include, applicable state and local taxes and/or Non-bypassable utility charges and fees, which will be billed by the EDU. In addition to AEP Energy's charges, you will be charged by your EDU for Distribution Service, Transmission Service, and other Non-bypassable utility charges and fees. The PUCO does not regulate AEP Energy's prices. An average residential customer, using 750 kWh of electricity on a monthly basis, would incur approximately \$42 to \$52 per month in such EDU charges and fees. In the event that there is any new, or any change in existing, law, regulation, rule, statute, order, filed tariff, decision, judgment, decree, or other event, including any change in any formula rate calculation, or any change in any interpretation or application of any of the foregoing, by a governmental authority, EDU, Independent System Operator, Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO"), such as PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., or other regulated service provider (a "Change in Law"), and such Change in Law results in AEP Energy incurring additional or increased costs or expenses or other adverse economic effects relating to providing the services contemplated herein (collectively, "Additional Costs"), then AEP Energy will provide written notice requesting your affirmative consent and agreement, describing the Additional Costs, the resulting price revisions, and the future date upon which such revised pricing is requested to be effective (a "Price Revision Request"). You then will be able to affirmatively consent and agree to such Price Revision Request, and if you agree, you will pay the revised price described in such Price Revision Request, and all other terms and conditions of this Agreement not modified by such Price Revision Request will remain in full force and effect. If, however, you do not affirmatively consent and agree to the Price Revision Request within thirty (30) calendar days, this Agreement, at AEP Energy's option, either may (1) continue at the existing pricing and existing terms and conditions of this Agreement, or (2) automatically terminate without penalty, cancellation fee or further obligation (but you will remain responsible to pay AEP Energy for any electricity supply used before this Agreement is terminated, as well as any late fees). Any such automatic termination will be effective on the next available drop date as established by the EDU. Furthermore, Additional Costs may be assessed to you as prescribed by the PUCO. Note that if, due to a change in market conditions, we wish to lower the price per kilowatt hour charged to you under this Agreement, we may do so without your consent, provided there are no other changes to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

3. Term (Length of Agreement). Your service from AEP Energy will begin on the start of service date determined by the EDU, and this Agreement shall be considered executed by AEP Energy, following: (a) the end of the seven (7) day rescission period and (b) acceptance of your enrollment by your EDU, and will continue for the Term (as listed in the table above), unless otherwise terminated, ending on the date your EDU effectuates your switch back to EDU standard offer service or to another CRES provider. Your meter read date and the date of initiation of service are determined by your EDU; therefore we are not liable for any resulting delay in commencement of your service. This contract does not automatically renew.

4. Billing. Unless AEP Energy notifies you otherwise, you will continue to receive a single bill, typically on a monthly basis, from your EDU that will contain both your EDU and AEP Energy charges (and you acknowledge that your billing and payment information may be provided to AEP Energy). AEP Energy offers budget billing for AEP Energy's charges to residential

customers only. You will be responsible for payment of the utility consolidated bill in accordance with applicable EDU billing rules and procedures. Failure by you to pay your EDU bill or meet any agreed-upon payment arrangement could result in service termination in accordance with your EDU's tariff and the termination of your contract with AEP Energy. Upon termination you will be returned to your EDU's applicable tariff service or you may switch to another CRES provider. AEP Energy reserves the right to issue an invoice to you directly. Such invoice would contain AEP Energy's charges for your retail electric energy service and may also contain applicable taxes and all of the EDU's applicable charges. If at any time AEP Energy must send you a bill directly for the supply service provided under this Agreement, and if you do not pay the full amount owed to AEP Energy by the due date of the bill, a late payment fee with respect to amounts owed to AEP Energy of one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the outstanding balance per month, or the maximum legally allowed interest rate, whichever is lower, until such payment is received by AEP Energy, will apply. If AEP Energy bills you directly for our services, AEP Energy may terminate this Agreement with fourteen (14) calendar days' written notice should you fail to pay the bill or meet any agreed-upon payment arrangements with respect to amounts owed to AEP Energy. Upon termination you will be returned to your EDU as a customer. You will remain responsible to pay AEP Energy for any electricity used before this Agreement is terminated as well as any late payment charges.

5. Switching Fees and Exceptions. Your EDU may charge you a switching fee. AEP Energy reserves the right to demand adequate assurances from you in the form of prepayment or other form of credit support in the event you fail to make payments in accordance with the terms herein. Customers requiring financial assurance will be required to post that assurance within three (3) business days of notice.

6. Cancellation/Termination Provisions/Failure to Pay. If this Agreement is not rescinded during the rescission period, your enrollment will be sent to your EDU. You may terminate this Agreement, without penalty, if you move outside AEP Energy's service area or into an area where AEP Energy charges a different price, by providing AEP Energy with a thirty (30) calendar day written notice prior to such move. You will remain responsible to pay AEP Energy for any electricity supply used before this Agreement is cancelled or terminated for any reason, as well as any late fees (if applicable as described in the "Billing" section above). Should you cancel service with AEP Energy and return to standard offer service with your EDU, you may not be served under the same rates, terms, and conditions that apply to other EDU customers.

7. Your Consent and Information Release Authorization. By accepting this offer from AEP Energy, you understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement with AEP Energy. You authorize AEP Energy to obtain information from the EDU that includes, but is not limited to: your billing history, payment history, historical and expected electricity usage, meter-readings, characteristics of electricity service, address, telephone number, and account number(s).

8. Contract Expiration. At the end of its Term, this Agreement will expire. As prescribed by the PUCO, at least every three (3) years, you will be given the opportunity to "opt-out" of the Program at no cost. You are responsible for arranging your electric supply upon the expiration of this Agreement.

9. Dispute Procedures. Contact AEP Energy with any questions concerning the terms of service, billing, disputes and complaints by phone at 1-877-726-0214 (toll-free), Monday – Friday from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm EST and Saturday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm EST or in writing at AEP Energy, 1 Easton Oval, Suite 200, Columbus, OH 43219, Attn: Customer Care. Our web address is AEPenergy.com/help. If your complaint is not resolved after

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you have called AEP Energy and/or your EDU, or for general utility information, you may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for assistance at 1-800-686-7826 (toll free) or TTY at 1-800-686-1570 (toll free) from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM EST weekdays or at www.PUCO.ohio.gov. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service). The Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) represents residential utility customers in matters before the PUCO. The OCC can be contacted at 1-877-742-5622 (toll free) from eight a.m. to five p.m. EST weekdays, or at <http://www.pickocc.org>.

10. Warranty and Force Majeure. AEP Energy warrants title to all electricity sold hereunder. THE WARRANTY SET FORTH IN THE PRECEDING SENTENCE IS EXCLUSIVE AND AEP ENERGY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, WHETHER STATUTORY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR ARISING OUT OF ANY COURSE OF DEALING OR PURPOSE OR USAGE OF TRADE. AEP Energy will make commercially reasonable efforts to provide your electric service, but does not guarantee a continuous supply of electricity. AEP Energy will not be responsible for any failure to commence or terminate Generation Service on the relevant date described herein. Certain causes and events are out of the reasonable control of AEP Energy ("Force Majeure Events") and may result in interruptions in service. AEP Energy is not liable for damages caused by acts of God, changes in laws, rules or regulations or other acts of any governmental authority (including the PUCO or RTO), accidents, strikes, labor troubles, required maintenance work, inability to access the EDU's system, nonperformance by the EDU, terrorism, sabotage, or any other cause beyond AEP Energy's reasonable control. If a Force Majeure Event occurs which renders AEP Energy unable to perform in whole or in part under this Agreement, our performance under this Agreement shall be excused for the duration of such event.

11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY AND REMEDIES. UNLESS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED HEREIN, ANY LIABILITY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE LIMITED TO DIRECT, ACTUAL DAMAGES AS THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY, AND ALL OTHER REMEDIES OR DAMAGES AT LAW OR IN EQUITY ARE WAIVED. NEITHER PARTY WILL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY FOR CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, PUNITIVE, TREBLE, EXEMPLARY OR INDIRECT DAMAGES, WHETHER IN TORT OR CONTRACT, UNDER ANY INDEMNITY PROVISIONS OR OTHERWISE, IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT. THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED ON REMEDIES AND DAMAGE MEASUREMENT WILL BE WITHOUT REGARD TO CAUSE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OF ANY PARTY, WHETHER SOLE, JOINT, CONCURRENT, ACTIVE OR PASSIVE AND SHALL SURVIVE TERMINATION, CANCELLATION, SUSPENSION, COMPLETION OR EXPIRATION OF THIS AGREEMENT; PROVIDED NO SUCH LIMITATION SHALL APPLY TO DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OF ANY PARTY.

12. Your Liability and Indemnification of AEP Energy. You assume full responsibility for retail electricity supplied to you at and after the Delivery Point, and agree to and shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless AEP Energy, its parent company and all of its affiliates, and all of their respective managers, members, officers, directors, shareholders, associates, employees, servants, and agents from and against all claims, losses, expenses (including attorneys' fees), damages, demands,

judgments, causes of action, and suits of any kind (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Claims"), including Claims for personal injury, death, or damages to property occurring at and after the Delivery Point, including upon your premises, arising out of or related to the Generation Service and/or your performance under this Agreement.

13. Assignment. You shall not assign this Agreement or your rights hereunder without the prior written consent of AEP Energy. AEP Energy may, upon prior written notice but without your consent, assign this Agreement to another licensed CRES provider, including any successor, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the PUCO.

14. Choice of Law; Severability. This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio, including applicable rules of the PUCO, without giving effect to any conflicts of law principles which otherwise might be applicable. Any provision or section of this Agreement declared or rendered void, unlawful, or otherwise unenforceable shall not otherwise affect the lawful obligations that arise under this Agreement.

15. Miscellaneous. You have the right to request from AEP Energy up to twenty-four (24) months of payment history, without charge. Your social security number, account number(s), or any of your customer information will not be released without your express written consent except in accordance with rules 4901:1-21-06 and 4901:1-21-10 of the Ohio Administrative Code. AEP Energy assumes no responsibility or liability for the following items that are the responsibility of the EDU: operation and maintenance of the EDU's electrical system, any interruption of service, termination of service, or deterioration of the EDU's service. In the event of a power outage, you should contact your EDU. AEP Energy reserves the right to re-price any account(s) or return you to the EDU if your utility rate code or meter type is changed and/or the account is no longer eligible for the Program. Any notice, demand or other communication to be given hereunder, including, without limitation, any termination notice, shall be in writing and sent to the address or email address maintained on file for you. By providing AEP Energy your email address, you agree to receive notices electronically, where permitted under applicable law. This Agreement supersedes all prior written or oral agreements or understandings. AEP Energy's environmental disclosure statement is available for viewing on our website at AEPenergy.com. You agree that AEP Energy will make the required quarterly updates to the statement electronically on our website. We will also provide the information to you upon request. **AEP Energy is a competitive retail electric service provider and an affiliate of Ohio Power Company (AEP Ohio). AEP Energy is not soliciting on behalf of and is not an agent of AEP Ohio.**

16. Contact Information; Notices. AEP Energy, 1 Easton Oval, Suite 200, Columbus, OH 43219, Attn: Customer Care. For more information, call 1-877-726-0214, Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm EST and Saturday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm EST or visit AEPenergy.com/help. You agree and authorize that AEP Energy and/or its third party service providers may listen to, monitor, and/or record telephone your calls with us and/or any of our affiliates, agents, and/or contractors as part of providing services under this Agreement. You expressly agree that these contacts are not unsolicited for purposes of any state or federal law. You also agree to receive communications from AEP Energy via email at the email address you provide (if any) to AEP Energy. It is your responsibility to notify AEP Energy of any changes to your contact information, including your email address.