

DIS Case Number: 00-2027-EL-GAG

Section A: Application Information

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

the applicant's legal name, address, telephone number, and web address.

Legal Name: Lucas County Board of	Country: United States	
Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio		
Phone: 419-213- Extension (if applicable):	Street: One Governme	nt Center, Suite 800
4500		
Website (if any): www.co.lucas.oh.us	City: Toledo	Province/State: OH
	Postal Code: 43604	

A-2. Contact person for regulatory matters

John Borell One Government Center Toledo, OH 43604 US jaborell@co.lucas.oh.us 4192132001

A-3. Contact person for Commission Staff use in investigating customer complaints

John Borell One Government Center Toledo, OH 43604 US jaborell@co.lucas.oh.us 4192132001

A-4. Applicant's address and toll-free number for customer service complaints

Phone: 419-213-2001	Extension (if	Country: United States
	applicable):	
Fax: 419-213-2011	Extension (if applicable):	Street: 711 Adams Street, 2nd Floor



City: Toledo Postal Code: 43604 Province/State: OH

B-1. Authorizing ordinance

Provide a copy of the adopted ordinance or resolution that reflects voter authorization to form a governmental aggregation program pursuant to Sections 4929.26 and 4929.27 of the Ohio Revised Code.

File(s) attached.

B-2. Operation and governance plans

Provide a copy of the applicant's plan for operation and governance of its aggregation program adopted pursuant to Sections 4929.26(C) or 4929.27(B) of the Revised Code. The Operation and Governance Plan should include all information pursuant to Rule 4901:1-28-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Files(s) attached.

B-3. Opt-out disclosure notice

If the aggregation program provides for automatic aggregation in accordance with Section 4929.26(A) of the Revised Code, provide a copy of the disclosure notification required by Section 4929.26(D) of the Revised Code.

File(s) uploaded

B-4. Experience and Plans

Provide a description of the applicant's experience in providing the service(s) for which it is applying (e.g. number and type of customers served, utility service areas, amount of load, etc.). Also provide the plan for contracting with customers, providing contracted services, providing billing statements, and responding to customer inquiries and complaints in accordance with Commission rules adopted pursuant to Section 4928.10 of the Revised Code.

File(s) attached



Application Attachments

Lucas County

Exhibit B-1 Authorizing Ordinance/Resolution

.BOARD OF ELECTIONS

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO EFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM WITH OPT-OUT PROVIEIONS 12 32 PH 100 PURSUANT TO SECTION 4928.20, OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE LUCAS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS LUCAS COUNTY

August 22, 2000

No. 00-1222

Commissioner Barlos offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Ohio Legislature has enacted electric deregulation legislation ("Am. Sub. S.B. No.3") which authorizes the legislative authorities of municipal corporations, townships and counties to aggregate the retail electrical loads located in the respective jurisdictions and to enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the purchase and sale of electricity; and

WHEREAS, such legislative authorities may exercise such authority jointly with any other legislative authorities; and

WHEREAS, governmental aggregation provides an opportunity for residential and small business customers collectively to participate in the potential benefits of electricity deregulation through lower electric rates which they would not otherwise be able to have individually; and

WHEREAS, this Board seeks to establish a governmental aggregation program with optout provisions pursuant to Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code (the "Aggregation Program"), for the residents, businesses and other electric consumers in the unincorporated areas of Lucas County and in conjunction jointly with any other municipal corporation, township, county or other political subdivision of the State of Ohio, as permitted by law.

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A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO EFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM WITH OPT-OUT PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4928.20, OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE LUCAS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS Page 2

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO, THAT:

Section 1. This Board finds and determines that it is in the best interest of Lucas County, its residents, businesses and other electric consumers located within the unincorporated areas of the County to establish the Aggregation Program in Lucas County. Provided that this Resolution and the Aggregation Program is approved by the electors of the unincorporated areas of the County pursuant to Section 2 of this Resolution, the County is hereby authorized to aggregate in accordance with Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code, the retail electrical loads located within the unincorporated areas of the County and, for that purpose, to enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity. The County may exercise such authority jointly with any other municipal corporation, township or county or other political subdivision of the State of Ohio to the full extent permitted by law. The aggregation will occur automatically for each person owning, occupying, controlling, or using an electric load center proposed to be aggregated and will provide for the opt-out rights described in Section 3 of this Resolution.

Section 2. The Board of Elections of Lucas County is hereby directed to submit the following question to the electors of the unincorporated areas of the County at the general election on November 7, 2000:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO EFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM WITH OPT-OUT PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4928.20, OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE LUCAS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS PAGE 3

Shall Lucas County have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located in the unincorporated areas of the County, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity, such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person elects to opt-out?

The Clerk of this Board is instructed immediately to file a certified copy of this Resolution and the proposed form of the ballot question with the Lucas County Board of Elections not less than seventy-five (75) days prior to November 7, 2000. The Aggregation Program shall not take effect unless approved by a majority of the electors voting upon this Resolution and the Aggregation Program provided for herein at the election held pursuant to this Section 2 and Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3. Upon the approval of a majority of the electors voting at the election provided for in Section 2 of this Resolution, this Board individually or jointly with any other political subdivision, shall develop a plan of operation and governance for the Aggregation Program. Before adopting such plan, this Board shall hold at least two public hearings on the plan. Before the first hearing, notice of the hearings shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the County. The notice shall summarize the plan and state the date, time, and location of each hearing. No plan adopted by this Board shall aggregate the electrical load of any electric load center within the unincorporated areas of the County unless it in advance clearly discloses to the person owning, occupying, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO EFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM WITH OPT-OUT PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4928.20, OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE LUCAS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS PAGE 4

> controlling, or using the load center that the person will be enrolled automatically in the Aggregation Program and will remain so enrolled unless the person affirmatively elects by a stated procedure not to be so enrolled. The disclosure shall state prominently the rates, charges, and other terms and conditions of enrollment. The stated procedure shall allow any person enrolled in the Aggregation Program the opportunity to opt-out of the program every two years, without paying a switching fee. Any such person that opts-out of the Aggregation Program pursuant to the stated procedure shall default to the standard service offer provided under division (a) of Section 4928.14 or division (d) of Section 4928.35, Ohio Revised Code, until the person chooses an alternative supplier.

Section 4. This Board finds and determines that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

Section 5. This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its adoption.

On the foregoing

Commissioner Barlos voted aye Commissioner Copeland voted aye Commissioner Isenberg - absent

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a true and exact copy of Resolution No.00-1222 duly passed by the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio, at its meeting 1 aust 22, 200 Clerk of County Commissioners

I hereby certify that the foregoing is

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Lucas County

Exhibit B-2 Operation and Governance Plan

PURPOSE

This aggregation plan has been developed in compliance with Section 4928.20 of the <u>Ohio</u> <u>Revised Code</u> regarding governmental aggregation of electric service customers.

The Lucas County Aggregation Program (hereinafter the 'Program') seeks to aggregate the retail electric loads of consumers located in the unincorporated areas of Lucas County, Ohio, to negotiate the best rates for the supply and distribution of electric power. It has the potential to combine residential, commercial and industrial customers into a buying pool that will be very attractive to marketers. Participation in the Program is voluntary. Any individual has the opportunity to decline to be a member of the Program and to return to the Toledo Edison standard offer of service or to enter into a power supply contract with any competitive retail electric supplier.

PROCESS

The process of governmental aggregation is set forth in Section 4928.20 of the <u>Ohio Revised</u> <u>Code</u>. The section defines two different types of aggregation that may be enacted by a governmental entity -- opt-in aggregation and opt-out aggregation. Opt-in aggregation can occur only with the prior consent of each electric consumer. That is, the consumer must give its consent to be included in the governmental aggregation program. Under the opt-out aggregation provisions, all electric consumers within the unincorporated areas of Lucas County, Ohio, will be automatically included in the Program. However, such customers will be given prior notice entitling them to affirmatively elect not to be part of the Program. These customers can opt-out during a 30-day period at the beginning of the Program without paying a switching fee. A similar 30 day opt-out period will be offered every two years during which customers can leave the Program without paying a switching fee.

LUCAS COUNTY'S AGGREGATION PROGRAM

Lucas County's Program will be administered by the Board of Lucas County Commissioners, with the assistance of the Office of the Lucas County Prosecuting Attorney and other appropriate offices of county government. The Board of Lucas County Commissioners currently administers the natural gas purchasing program that contracts for natural gas service to all of the County's facilities. Lucas County has expertise in the law and regulations applicable to the aggregation program and considerable experience in contracting with marketers for energy services.

The Program is designed to reduce the amount consumers pay for electric energy. Lucas County will not buy and resell the power for the participants of the Program. Instead, Lucas County will competitively bid and negotiate a contract with a competitive retail electric supplier to provide firm, all-requirements service to the members of the Program. The contract will be for fixed price service to each class of customers at a rate that is lower than the standard offer from Toledo Edison. Once the contract has been negotiated, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners will formally consider it for approval.

Once the contract has been approved, notice will be sent to each customer disclosing the rates to be charged for electricity and other terms of the contract with the competitive retail electric supplier. Customers will be advised in the notice that they may opt-out of the Program during a 30-day period following the mailing of the notification. Customers who opt-out of the Program during this initial notification period will remain on Toledo Edison's standard service offer unless and until the customer chooses an alternative power supplier.

SERVICES

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners, with the assistance of other offices of county government, will provide technical analysis, competitive procurement of services, regulatory approvals, account and fiscal management, contract maintenance, communications, program coordination and administrative support for the Program using existing staff.

FUNDING

The primary expenses of the Program are expected to be publication of notices, written notification to customers, switching fees to Toledo Edison, regulatory fees and registration with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Except, possibly, for the initial notification of customers, these expenses will be the responsibility of the marketer supplying services to the Program. Lucas County anticipates that the startup costs will not exceed \$10,000.

NOTIFICATION OF CUSTOMERS

Following the approval of the power supply contract by the Board of Lucas County Commissioners, the Board, in conjunction with other offices of county government, will begin notifying customers of the rates to be charged to all participants in the Program. Notices will be sent out by: (1) a notice included within the electric bill or by a separate mailing; (2) newspaper notices; and (3) public service announcements.

The notice shall inform customers that they have the right to opt-out of the Program without penalty within 30 days after the mailing of the notice. In addition, the notice shall prominently state all charges to be applicable to service under the Program including a comparison with the Toledo Edison standard offer. Finally, the notice will explain how to opt-out of the Program.

NOTIFICATION OF TOLEDO EDISON

At the same time that customers are being notified of the contract prices under the Program, the Board of Lucas County Commissioners or its selected power supplier shall notify Toledo Edison that Lucas County has negotiated a contract with a competitive retail electric service provider to supply firm, all-requirements service to members of the Program. Toledo Edison will be advised to prepare for the transfer of these customers from the standard service offer to the offer of the selected power supplier.

ACTIVATION OF CUSTOMER SERVICE

After a notice is sent out to all electric customers in Lucas 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.

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.

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 optout 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.

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.

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 Toledo Edison Standard Service Offer upon termination.

RATES

The Board of Lucas County Commissioners shall receive proposals from electric suppliers using a competitive selection process. The request for proposal shall require the suppliers to offer a generation charge for each customer class, load grouping or other appropriate category that is lower than the standard offer from Toledo Edison. The prices to be charged to customers in the Program will be se by the Board of Lucas County Commissioners after negotiations with the selected supplier.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES

- A. The Board of County Commissioners of Lucas County 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.

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.

INFORMATION AND COMPLAINT NUMBERS

Potential participants can receive more information about the program or Copies of this Plan from Lucas County free of charge by calling 419-213-4500.

Any natural gas 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. For all TDD/TYY calls, the PUCO may be reached at 1-800-686-1570.

Appendix A -- Education Process

The Provider will develop an educational program in conjunction with the County. 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. <u>Member Access</u>:

- 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. <u>Member Complaints</u>:
 - 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 the Provider; or
 - b. The consumer and The PUCO Staff ("Commission Staff"), when a complaint is referred to the Provider by the Commission Staff.
 - 2. If an investigation is not completed within 14 calendar days, the 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

1. Provider shall arrange for Toledo Edison or its agent to bill Members for such services according to a tariff approved by the commission. Residential Member bills issued by or for the Provider shall be accurate and understandable, be rendered at intervals consistent with those of Ohio Edison, and contain sufficient information for Members to compute and compare the total cost of competitive retail electric service (s). Such bills shall also include:

a. The Member's name, billing address, service address, the Member's EDU account number, and if applicable, Provider account number;

b. The dates of service covered by the bill, an itemization of each type of competitive service covered by the bill, any related billing components, the charge for each type of service, and any other information the Member would need to recalculate the bill for accuracy;

c. The applicable billing determinants, including beginning meter reading, ending meter reading(s), demand meter reading(s), multipliers, consumption(s), and demands;

d. For Member-generators with net metering contracts, a statement of the net metered generation;

e. The unit price per kWh charged for competitive service, as calculated by dividing current-period competitive service charges by the current-period consumption;

f. An identification of the provider of each service appearing on the bill;

g. The amount billed for the current period, any unpaid amounts due from previous periods, any payments or credits applied to the Member's account during the current period, any late payment charges or gross and net charges, if applicable, and the total amount due and payable.

- 2. The due date for payment to keep the account current. Such due date shall be no less than:
 - a. Fourteen days after the postmark date on the bill for residential Member;
 - and Twenty-one days after the postmark date or the bill for nonresidential Members;
 - b. Current balance of the account, if a residential Member is billed according to a budget plan;
 - c. Options and instructions on how Members may make their payments;
 - d. For each provider whose charges appear on the bill, a listing of the provider's tollfree telephone number and address for Member billing questions or complaints;
 - e. A listing of the toll-free consumer assistance telephone numbers and available hours for applicable state agencies, such as the commission, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, and the Ohio Attorney General's office;
 - f. The Toledo Edison 24-hour local/toll-free telephone number for reporting service emergencies;
 - g. Identification of estimated bills or bills not based upon actual end-of-period meter readings for the period; and
 - h. An explanation of any codes and abbreviations used.

- 3. If applicable, Provider will, upon request, provide Members with the name and street address/location of the nearest payment center and/or authorized payment agent.
- 4. If applicable, when a Member pays the bill at a payment center or to an authorized payment agent, such payment shall be credited to the Member's account as of the day such payment center or agent receives it.
- 5. The County and Provider shall establish policies and procedures for handling billing disputes and requests for payment arrangements.

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 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.

Lucas County

Exhibit B-4 Experience

Experience

Lucas County officials are experienced in negotiating and providing for common services for the County. However, due to the complexity of Governmental Aggregation, the County selected Palmer Energy Company, to assist them in designing, implementing and maintaining the Program.

Palmer Energy Company is a Toledo based energy consulting firm founded in 1980. Palmer Energy was a natural gas industry pioneer by working on their customers' behalf as an external consultant. Purchased by Mark Frye in 1994, Palmer Energy has become a leader in unbiased energy management and consulting. While its evolution continues alongside the energy industry, Palmer Energy Company is dedicated to operating as an integral member of a client's energy management team.

Palmer Energy is also the energy consultant for The Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition (NOAC). NOAC is a coalition of communities in Lucas and northern Wood Counties providing governmental aggregation services for electric and natural gas customers within the Cities of Maumee, Northwood, Oregon, Perrysburg, Rossford, Sylvania, Toledo and Waterville, the Villages of Delta, Holland, Ottawa Hills and Walbridge, the Wood County Townships of Lake and Perrysburg, and all the unincorporated township areas of Lucas County (through the Board of County Commissioners, Lucas County, Ohio). Mark Frye, President of Palmer Energy, is NOAC's designated consultant and has testified on behalf of NOAC in several matters before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Lucas County has been an active member in the natural gas and electric energy programs of Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition (NOAC). NOAC was designed specifically to help communities in Lucas and Northern Wood Counties save money on their natural gas and electric bills by utilizing the strength of group buying. By grouping together, communities can leverage their buying power when shopping the market, thus securing the best deals possible. The independent energy professionals of Palmer Energy Company, on behalf of NOAC, obtained the best price for electric and natural gas from various reputable suppliers through the RFP process

Palmer Energy recently partnered with the Ohio Municipal League to help manage a natural gas and electric program for the facilities, as well as electric and natural gas government aggregation programs for the residents of member cities and villages. This program was designed specifically to help cities and villages save money on their natural gas and electric bills by utilizing the strength of group buying.

Palmer Energy Company will:

- Assist the day to day administration of program (problem resolution, press releases, PUCO compliance, supplier liaison, contract review, etc.)
- Design and issue the Request for Proposal, analyze supplier responses and provide recommendations for the supply agreement.
- Review customer data provided by the utility that would serve as the basis for an opt-out notice. Provide customer service support for consumers in the County to call for information during the 21-day enrollment and opt out period for the County's Aggregation Program.

- Respond to customer inquiries, billing questions and/or complaints. While the billing of customers for the retail generation supply will be provided through the electric distribution utility, Toledo Edison (TE), and the billing process will be coordinated with TE by the selected supplier, for the Aggregation Group, Palmer Energy will offer assistance as needed on behalf of the County.
- Write and prepare reports on a quarterly/annual basis to the City, PUCO, PUCO's Market Monitoring division, and the Ohio Consumers' Counsel.
- Palmer Energy is well versed in the rules adopted by the PUCO, and is thus in a position to ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of Section 4928.10 of the Revised Code, and the rules adopted by the Commission pursuant thereto.

Contact information for Palmer Energy Company

Mark R. Frye, President 5577 Airport Highway, Suite 101 Toledo, Ohio 43615 419-539-9180 (Office) 419-539-9185 (Fax) Email: mfrye@palmerenergy.com

Lucas County

Exhibit B-3 Automatic Aggregation Disclosure Opt – Out Notice

September 29, 2020

Lucas County Electric Aggregation Enrollment Notification

Dear Resident or Small Business,

Welcome to your community's electric aggregation program which provides you with exclusive pricing on the electric generation portion of your electric bill. This is possible through governmental aggregation, a community purchasing program where community officials use group buying power to purchase electricity from a retail electric generation supplier certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. To further increase the buying power of your community, it decided to join with many other area communities as part of the Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition (NOAC). This program was approved by voters in your community in November 2000.

How You Benefit

By participating in this aggregation program, you will receive the following exclusive pricing on your electric generation:

	Your Electric Utility	Fixed Price	Term End	Early Termination Fee
Residential & Small Business	Toledo Edison	4.57 cents per kWh	May 2022	None

Energy Harbor has been selected by your community as part of the Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition to provide your electric generation. If you're not already participating, this is your chance to join. If you're already participating, this is your opportunity to continue the benefits of the program.

Same Reliable Service

Your electric utility will continue to maintain the system that delivers power to your home or business – no new poles or wires will be built by Energy Harbor. You will continue to receive a single, easy-to-read bill from your local electric utility with your Energy Harbor charges included. There is no cost for enrollment, you will not be charged a switching fee, and you do not need to do anything to participate.

Enrollment Information

If you are not currently receiving electric generation from Energy Harbor, your electric utility will send you a letter confirming your selection of Energy Harbor as your electric generation provider. As required by law, this letter will inform you of your option to cancel your contract with Energy Harbor within seven days of its postmark. To become a member of the community's electric governmental aggregation program, you don't need to take any action when this letter arrives.

Solar Energy Opt-In Program

If you are interested in supporting renewable energy, you can also elect to purchase power supply that includes 25% solar renewable energy certificates (RECs) at a price of 4.80 cents per kWh. Please review the FAQs for additional details and call 1-866-636-3749 to enroll in the solar offer.

Opt-Out Information

If you are a new member of the program, your future bills will reflect the electric price listed above from Energy Harbor after your enrollment has been completed and your switch has been finalized – approximately 30-45 days, depending upon your meter read date. Of course, you are not obligated to participate in the community's electric governmental aggregation program. If you do not want to participate in your community program, you have until the opt-out deadline found in the upper right-hand corner of this letter to return the attached "opt-out" form below. If you do not opt out at this time and leave the program at a later date, you will not be penalized, however you might not be served under the same rates or terms and conditions that apply to other customers served by your utility.

Please refer to the enclosed Terms and Conditions and FAQs for more information. Your community has selected Energy Harbor to handle questions regarding your community-approved electric aggregation program. If you have any questions, please call Energy Harbor toll-free at 1-866-636-3749, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sincerely,

Northwest Ohio Aggregation Coalition



Lucas County OPT-OUT FORM

Option 1: Do Nothing to Join You will be enrolled automatically if you do not respond to this letter.		Option 2: Return this Opt-Out Form	Opt-Out Deadline
	OR	To opt out, this form must be received by Energy Harbor by the deadline.	September 29, 2020

Service Address (City, State, Zip): ____

Account Number: _

Account Holder Signature: ____

Return opt-out form to: NOAC Community Electric Aggregation Program c/o Energy Harbor, 168 E Market St, Akron, Ohio 44308

How is my community able to choose a certified electric generation supplier on my behalf?

Under governmental aggregation, local officials bring citizens together to gain group buying power for the purchase of competitively priced electricity from a retail electric generation supplier certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). Residents voted to allow the community to contract for an electric generation supplier on their behalf.

What do I need to do if I *want* to be included in this governmental aggregation?

You do not need to do anything to receive the discounted generation pricing under this program. You may choose to remain in the aggregation group by simply not returning the opt-out form.

Is my price for power fixed, or does it vary?

The information in your letter states if your price is fixed, variable, or variable based on a tiered pricing structure. If you have a fixed price, the price you will receive each month does not change. With a variable price, the discount you will receive each month does not change. But because the actual price per kWh charged by the utility may change each month (based on the season and your usage), the price per kWh from Energy Harbor will also change each month. If you receive a variable price, based on a tiered pricing structure, your initial price will remain consistent each month through the meter-read date of the first tier outlined in your Agreement's Terms & Conditions. At that time, your price will change but then remain consistent each month for the rest of your Agreement.

How will I know if I can save money under the electric governmental aggregation program?

You'll know you are saving money as long as your price with Energy Harbor is lower than your utility's Price to Compare (PTC). To estimate your savings on a % off discount, locate the PTC on your electric bill. Divide your PTC by 100, then multiply it by the % discount (ex: 6% = 0.06) to determine your savings per kWh. Multiply this by your total monthly usage for an average monthly savings estimate.

If I am already a member of this program, why am I receiving this letter?

As a current member of your community's electric governmental aggregation program, you are given the opportunity to opt out of the program at least every three years at no charge. Your previous contract with Energy Harbor is coming to an end, and this is your opportunity to either opt out or continue the benefits of the program.

What does "opt out" mean?

"Opt-out" means that you can decide not to participate in your community's electric governmental aggregation program. By returning the opt-out form, which is included in this mailing, by the Opt-Out Deadline you will not be enrolled as an electric generation customer with Energy Harbor, your community's competitive electric generation supplier, and you will not receive the discount. What happens if I do not send in the opt-out form? If you do not return the opt-out form by the Opt-Out Deadline, you will be included in your community's governmental aggregation program and will receive competitively priced electricity from Energy Harbor.

Can I opt out over the phone?

No, if you want to opt out, you must mail in your completed opt-out form and it must be received by the Opt-Out Deadline.

Can I opt out of the program at a later date?

Yes, you may leave the aggregation program at any time.

What are my energy supply choices if I decide to opt out? You can stay with your current electric utility, which will continue to supply your electric generation as it always has, or you can shop for an alternative generation supplier. A list of competitive electric suppliers certified by the PUCO and their current prices are available by calling 1-800-686-PUCO (1-800-686-7826).

If I join the aggregation, will Energy Harbor continue or allow me to begin to budget bill my supplier charges? For customers in Toledo Edison, The Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison and Duke Energy your utility includes supplier charges in the monthly budgeted amount. No action is necessary to continue that service. However, budget billing supplier charges are limited in AEP Ohio's and DP&L's service areas and Energy Harbor will not automatically budget the generation portion of your electric bill. If you are currently on a budget billing program with your utility and have at least 10 months of usage at your service address, please call 1-866-636-3749, to determine if a budget billing offer through Energy Harbor is available in your community.

Can I still have my payment automatically deducted from my checking account as I do now?

Yes. How you pay your electric bill will not change.

If I join my community's governmental aggregation program, who will deliver my power, read my meter and respond to emergencies, such as power outages? Your electric utility will still be responsible for delivering power to your home or business, reading your meter and restoring power after an outage.

Who is Energy Harbor?

Energy Harbor is a fully integrated retail energy provider and independent power producer capable of generating substantial carbon-free energy. The company proudly serves nearly one million residential, commercial and industrial customers in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Illinois and Michigan.

What is the toll-free number for questions?

If you have any questions, please call 1-866-636-3749, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



	Residential and Small Commercial – Electric Terms and Conditions
Product	Fixed Price
Electric Distribution Utility ("EDU")	The Toledo Edison Company
Price and Length of Agreement	4.57 ¢/kWh through your May 2022 meter read
Cancellation/Termination Fee	None

These Terms and Conditions apply to you because you are enrolling for electric generation service with Energy Harbor LLC ("Energy Harbor") through either (a) affirmative consent or (b) not opting out of your community electric aggregation program. If you enroll by affirmative consent, these Terms and Conditions and the enrollment information on the website are your Agreement ("Agreement"). If you choose to remain in the community aggregation program by not "opting-out" or exercising the right of rescission, these Terms and Conditions and your opt-out notification are your Agreement. Please keep a copy of this Agreement for your records.

Energy Harbor is certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") to offer and supply electric generation services in Ohio. As a Competitive Retail Electric Service ("CRES") provider, Energy Harbor will supply the electric generation to your Electric Distribution Utility ("EDU") based on your usage. Your EDU then distributes or delivers the electricity to you. Energy Harbor sets the generation prices and charges that the customers pay. The PUCO regulates distribution prices and services. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regulates transmission prices and services.

Definitions: Generation Charge - Charge for the production of electricity. Transmission Charge - Charge for moving high voltage electricity from a generation facility to the distribution lines of the EDU. Distribution Service - Basic service for delivering electricity over a distribution system to a customer from the transmission system.

Right of Rescission: If you do not opt-out or you give your affirmative consent and are enrolled to receive generation service from Energy Harbor, your EDU will send you a confirmation letter. You have the right to rescind your enrollment within seven (7) calendar days following the postmark date of the confirmation letter by contacting the EDU by telephone or in writing as described in the letter. The Right of Rescission only applies when a customer switches to a generation supplier and not on renewal enrollments. Your EDU will not send a confirmation notice upon any renewal of this Agreement. Should you choose to opt-out of your community's program, you will be served by your EDU's standard service offer established pursuant to section 4928.14 of the Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") unless you choose an alternate supplier of electricity.

Eligibility: Only eligible residential customer accounts not enrolled in the Percentage of Income Plan Program ("PIPP") and eligible small commercial customers may enroll in this offer from Energy Harbor. Energy Harbor reserves the right to refuse enrollment to any customer with an outstanding balance.

Basic Service Prices: During the term of this Agreement, you agree to pay Energy Harbor a price for combined Generation and Generation Related Charges ("Retail Electric Service"), specified in the table above. Your Price to Compare ("PTC") consists of bypassable transmission, generation and transmission and generation related components, which are charges associated with the costs of purchased power and the cost to deliver the power through the transmission system. These are the charges that you would avoid for that billing period when you switch to Energy Harbor. If your product in the table above is a % Off PTC product, your monthly price per kWh will vary because the EDU's PTC may change based on any changes made by the EDU in its calculations. In addition to Energy Harbor's charges, you will be charged by your EDU for distribution and various other charges. Your price may also include a fee assessed by a broker or agent representing your community.

Length of Agreement: As a part of your community's program, your Retail Electric Service from Energy Harbor will commence with the next available meter reading and after processing of the enrollment by your EDU and continue through the term indicated in the table above. The program may be terminated prior to the term pursuant to the terms of the master agreement between Energy Harbor and your community for the aggregation program. Should the program be terminated, you will be returned to your EDU's standard service offer or its successor. In the event that (1) the PUCO approves or implements a phase-in credit for generation and/or transmission charges of the EDU or takes any other action which affects the PTC or otherwise does not allow the EDU to reflect the full cost to procure generation and transmission in the PTC or other regulatory action; or (2) there is any change in any statute, rule, regulation, order, law, or tariff promulgated by any court, governmental authority, utility, Independent System Operator ("ISO"), Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO") or other service provider, or any change in operating procedure, which alters to the detriment of Energy Harbor its costs to perform under this Agreement, you may receive a notification from Energy Harbor. This notification will include a description of one or more of the situations described above. Energy Harbor may offer you new Terms and Conditions. You must indicate your affirmative consent to the new Terms and Conditions as specified in the notices. If you do not contact Energy Harbor to accept the new terms, this Agreement will terminate on the date specified in the notices, and you may be returned to your EDU for Retail Electric Service. Alternatively, Energy Harbor may decide to terminate this Agreement, and you will receive prior written notice of the termination, after which you may be returned to your EDU for Retail Electric Service. Whether Energy Harbor offers you new terms or terminates this Agreement under this provision, you will not be responsible for the cancellation/termination fee (if any) set forth in the table above. You must still pay all Energy Harbor charges through the date you are returned to your EDU or switched to another CRES provider for service.

Billing: You will receive a consolidated bill monthly from your EDU for both your Energy Harbor and EDU charges. If you do not pay your bill by the due date, Energy Harbor may cancel this Agreement after giving you a minimum of fourteen (14) days written notice. Upon cancellation you will be returned to your EDU as a customer. You will remain responsible to pay Energy Harbor for any electricity used before this Agreement is cancelled, as well as any late payment and early termination charges. Energy Harbor reserves the right to convert you from consolidated billing to dual billing if such a conversion will facilitate more timely billing, collections, and/or payment. Furthermore, your failure to pay EDU charges may result in your electric service being disconnected in accordance with the EDU tariff.

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If you have 12 months of billing history and you are enrolled in budget billing with the EDU, you can enroll in a budget billing program once per year. At the end of the contract term, you are responsible for payment of any outstanding balance upon final contract true up. Energy Harbor reserves the right to adjust your monthly budget amount prior to final contract true up. If you enroll in budget billing, then choose not to be in the program or if you become two consecutive monthly payments overdue, you will be removed from budget billing, your account will be reconciled, and you will be billed for the outstanding budget balance on your next billing cycle.

Penalties, Fees and Exceptions: If you do not pay the full amount owed Energy Harbor by the due date of the bill, Energy Harbor may charge a 1.5% per month late payment fee.

Cancellation/Termination Provisions: You may terminate this Agreement, without penalty, if you move outside the CRES provider's service area or into an area where the CRES provider charges a different price, by providing Energy Harbor with a thirty (30) day written notice. There may be a Cancellation/Termination Fee indicated in the table above if you terminate this Agreement for any other reason, except as expressly provided herein. Customer and Energy Harbor both agree that the following will constitute force majeure events under this Agreement and that Energy Harbor shall have the right to terminate or modify the agreement without liability if: (1) the Electric Security Plan (ESP), Market Rate Offer (MRO) and/or Competitive Bid Process (CBP), or other generation procurement process results in a Price to Compare ("PTC") that is equal to or less than the comparable annualized generation and transmission rates and riders in effect as of the effective date of this Agreement, or (2) the PUCO approves or implements a phase-in credit for generation and/or transmission charges of the EDU or takes any other action which affects the PTC or otherwise does not allow the EDU to reflect the full cost to procure generation and transmission in the PTC or other regulatory action. In the event that the program is terminated, you will be returned to your EDU's standard service offer. Upon termination with Energy Harbor and return to the standard service offer with your EDU, you may not be served under the same rates, terms, and conditions that apply to other EDU customers.

Customer Consent and Information Release Authorization: By choosing not to opt-out of your community's aggregation program, or to affirmatively join it, you understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement with Energy Harbor. You authorize Energy Harbor to obtain information from the EDU that includes, but is not limited to: billing history, payment history, historical and future electricity usage, meter readings, and characteristics of electricity service. Energy Harbor reserves the right to determine if your credit standing is satisfactory before accepting your enrollment request. This Agreement shall be considered executed by Energy Harbor following acceptance of your enrollment request by Energy Harbor, the end of the seven (7) day rescission period, and subsequent acceptance of the enrollment by your EDU.

Customer Consent to Communications: By signing this Agreement, you agree to receive pre-recorded/artificial voice messages calls and/or use of an automatic dialing device, text messages and/or emails from Energy Harbor or its agents/assigns at any phone number or email address. You agree to be responsible for any charges you may receive on that number, including standard telephone, SMS or text message fees. You may revoke this express consent at any time by calling us at 1-888-254-6359. Such revocation has no bearing on your ability to contract with Energy Harbor.

Contract Expiration: At least every three (3) years, you will be given the opportunity to opt-out of your community's aggregation program at no cost. You are responsible for arranging your electric supply upon termination of this Agreement.

Dispute Procedures: Contact Energy Harbor with any questions concerning the terms of service by phone at 1-888-254-6359 (toll-free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST weekdays, or in writing at Energy Harbor, Attn: Contract Administration, 341 White Pond Dr, B3, Akron, OH 44320. Our web address is <u>www.energyharbor.com</u>. If your complaint is not resolved after you have called your electric supplier and/or your electric utility, or for general utility information, residential and business customers may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for assistance at 1-800-686-7826 (toll free) from eight a.m. to five p.m. weekdays, or at <u>http://www.puco.ohio.gov</u>. 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 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, or at <u>http://www.pickocc.org</u>.

Miscellaneous: You have the right to request from Energy Harbor, twice within a twelve (12) month period, up to twenty-four (24) months of payment history, without charge. Energy Harbor is prohibited from disclosing a Customer's Social Security number and/or account number(s) without the Customer's written consent except for Energy Harbor's collections and reporting, participating in programs funded by the universal service fund, pursuant to section 4928.52 of the Revised Code, or assigning a customer's contract to another CRES provider. Energy Harbor's environmental disclosure statement is available for viewing on our website <u>www.energyharbor.com</u>. You agree that Energy Harbor will make the required annual and quarterly updates to the disclosure statement electronically on our website. Energy Harbor will also provide the information upon request. Energy Harbor may assign its rights to another, including any successor, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the PUCO. Energy Harbor 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 local EDU. Customer is responsible for providing Energy Harbor with accurate account information. If said information is incorrect, Energy Harbor reserves the right to reprice the applicable account(s) or terminate the Agreement. Energy Harbor reserves the right to return any customer to the EDU if the customer's rate code is changed and the account is no longer eligible for this offer. Customer authorizes, but does not obligate, Energy Harbor to exercise customer's governmental aggregation opt-out rights.

Warranty: Energy Harbor warrants title and the right to all electricity sold hereunder. THE WARRANTIES SET FORTH IN THIS PARAGRAPH ARE EXCLUSIVE AND ARE IN LIEU OF 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 USAGE OF TRADE.

Competitive Retail Electric Service Affidavit

County of Lucas

State of Ohio

John A. Borell , Affiant, being duly sworn/affirmed, hereby states that:

- 1. The information provided within the certification or certification renewal application and supporting information is complete, true, and accurate to the best knowledge of affiant, and that it will amend its application while it is pending if any substantial changes occur regarding the information provided.
- The applicant will timely file an annual report of its intrastate gross receipts, gross earnings, and sales of kilowatt-hours of electricity pursuant to Sections <u>4905.10(A)</u>, <u>4911.18(A)</u>, and <u>4928.06(F)</u>, Ohio Revised Code.
- The applicant will timely pay any assessment made pursuant to Sections <u>4905.10</u>, <u>4911.18</u>, and <u>4928.06(F)</u>, Ohio Revised Code.
- The applicant will comply with all applicable rules and orders adopted by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio pursuant to <u>Title 49</u>, Ohio Revised Code.
- The applicant 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 will fully comply with Section <u>4928.09</u>, Ohio Revised Code regarding consent to the jurisdiction of Ohio Courts and the service of process.
- 7. The applicant will comply with all state and/or federal rules and regulations concerning consumer protection, the environment, and advertising/promotions.
- 8. The applicant 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 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.
- If applicable to the service(s) the applicant will provide, 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.
- 11. The Applicant will inform the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio of any material change to the information supplied in the 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 consumer complaints.

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- 12. The facts set forth above are true and accurate 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.
- 13. Affiant further sayeth naught.

John Q. Borell - Asst Pros Atty Signature of Affiant & Title Sworn and subscribed before me this 7+h day of Ocr., 2020Month Year Signature of official administering oath JAnet B. Abbe- Not ARY Print Name and Title ABBE-NON My commission expires on $\frac{7}{8}/2B$ PETERITER INTE IAA

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in

Case No(s). 00-2027-EL-GAG

Summary: In the Matter of the Application of Lucas County