1216 Lexington Ave., Suite 301 Mansfield, OH. 44907 www.trebelllc.com



December 4, 2020

Docketing Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad St. Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

RE: Electric Governmental Aggregator Renewal Application — Washington Township, Richland County, OH.

#### CASE # 18-1825-EL-GAG

Washington Township is pleased to submit its renewal application for electric governmental aggregator. The original application has been notarized and signed by an authorized official.

Material provided for review:

- Application for Governmental Aggregations and Affidavit
- Exhibit A-2 Authorizing Ordinance reflecting voter authorization;
- Exhibit A-3 Plan of Operation and Governance;
- Exhibit A-4 Automatic Aggregation Disclosure;

Should you have any questions or additional needs, please call me at (614) 425.4885.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Belcastro Principal 614.425.4885 scott@electricsuppliers.org

# Ohio Public Utilities Commission

Original GAG Case Number	Version
18-1825-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\_Washington Township, Richland County

 Address 2480 O'Possom Run Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44903

 PUCO Certificate # and Date Certified 19-1356E(1), January 11, 2019

 Telephone # (419) 756-7256\_Web site address (if any) www.washingtontwp.us

- A-2 <u>Exhibit A-2 "Authorizing Ordinance"</u> 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 <u>Revised Code</u>.
- A-3 <u>Exhibit A-3 "Operation and Governance Plan"</u> 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 <u>Revised Code</u>. 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

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Exhibit A-4 Automatic Aggregation Disclosure-"Opt-out Form" provide a copy of A-4 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 <u>Revised Code</u>. 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 Scott Belcastro		
Title Principal		
Business address 1216	Lexington Ave., Suite 301,	Mansfield, OH 44907
Telephone # 614.425.48	385	Fax # 614.417.0410
E-mail address	scott@electricsuppliers.org	g

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

Name Scott Belcast	tro		
Title Principal			
Business address	1216 Lexington Ave., Suite	e 301, Mansfield, OH 44907	
Telephone # 614.4	25.4885	Fax # 614.417.0410	
E-mail address	scott@electricsuppli	ers.org	

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

Customer Service address 1216 Lexington Ave., Suite 301, Mansfield, OH 44907 Toll-free Telephone #877.861.2772 Fax # 614.417.0410 E-mail address scott@electricsuppliers.org

Signature of Applicant & Title

Sworn and subscribed before me this 3 day of December, 2020 Month Year Reva Hammett Fiscal Officer rint Name and Title tournet Signature of official administering oath My commission expires on May 9 2023

SARA HAMME' NOTARY PUBLIC. STATE OF OHIO My Commission Expires May 9, 2023

# FFIDA

State of <u>Onio</u>: County of <u>Richland</u>:

David Voder , Affiant, being duly sworn/affirmed according to law, deposes and says that: He/She is the Chair Truster (Office of Affiant) of Washington 100015 MAnne of Applicant); 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.
- The Applicant herein, attests it will timely file an annual report with the Public Utilities Commission 2. 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.
- The Applicant herein, attests that it will timely pay any assessments made pursuant to Sections 3. 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.
- The Applicant herein, attests that it will cooperate fully with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 5. and its Staff on any utility matter including the investigation of any consumer complaint regarding any service offered or provided by the Applicant.
- The Applicant herein, attests that it will fully comply with Section 4928.09 of the Revised Code 6. regarding consent to the jurisdiction of Ohio Courts and the service of process.
- The Applicant herein, attests that it will comply with all state and/or federal rules and regulations 7. concerning consumer protection, the environment, and advertising/promotions.
- The Applicant herein, attests that it will use its best efforts to verify that any entity with whom it has a 8. 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.
- The Applicant herein, attests that it will cooperate fully with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 9. 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)

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- 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 optout (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.

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.

Dawd Upler Chaik TRUSTER Signature of Adriant & Title

Sworn and subscribed before me this <u>3</u> day of <u>December</u>, <u>2020</u> Month

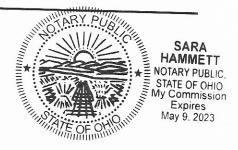
Danin

Signature of official administering oath

<u>Sava Hannutt Fiscal</u> Officer Print Name and Title

Year

My commission expires on May 9, 2023



#### **EXHIBIT A-2**

### **AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE**

# Trebel Energy



Resolution No. 29 - 18

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO EFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM WITH OPT-OUT PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4928.20 OHIO REVISED CODE AND DIRECTING THE RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Legislature enacted electric deregulation legislation ("Am. Sub. S.B. No. 3"), which authorized the legislative authorities of municipal corporations, townships, and unincorporated areas of the county, 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, such legislative authorities may exercise said authority individually or jointly with any other legislative authorities; and

WHEREAS, governmental aggregation 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, the Board of Trustees of Washington Township ("Trustees") seeks to establish a governmental aggregation program with opt-out provisions pursuant to Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code, for the residents, businesses and other electric consumers in the unincorporated areas of the Township, and may be in conjunction with any other legislative authorities in the State of Ohio, as permitted by law (the "Aggregation Program").

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Washington Township, Richland County, Ohio that:

Section 1: The Board finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the Township, its residents, businesses and other electric consumers located within the unincorporated areas of the Township to establish an Aggregation Program within the unincorporated areas of the Township. Provided that the Aggregation Program is approved by the electors of the Township pursuant to Section 2 of this Resolution, the Board is hereby authorized to automatically aggregate, in accordance with Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code, the retail electric loads located within the unincorporated areas of the Township, and, for that purpose, to enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the purchase and sale of electricity. The Board may

exercise such authority jointly with any other political subdivision of the State of Ohio to the full extent permitted by law, which may include use of an energy broker/consultant/aggregator, so long as the broker/consultant/aggregator is certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

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 Richland County is hereby directed to submit the following question to the electors of the Township at the election on November 6, 2018:

Shall the Board of Trustees of Washington Township have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located within the unincorporated areas of the Township, and for that purpose, enter into services 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, in accordance with Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code and Resolution No. 29-18 adopted by the Board of Trustees?

The Fiscal Officer of this Board is instructed to immediately file a certified copy of this Resolution and the proposed form of the ballot question with the Richland County Board of Elections not less than ninety (90) days prior to the election to be held November 6, 2018. 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 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, may 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 unincorporated areas of the Township. The notice shall summarize the plan and state the date, time,

and place of each hearing. No plan adopted by this Board shall aggregate the electric load of any electric load center within the unincorporated areas of the Township unless it, in advance, clearly discloses to the person owning, occupying, 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 at least every three years, without paying a switching fee. Any such person who opts out of the Aggregation Program pursuant to the stated procedure shall default to the standard service offer provided under Section 4928.141 of the Ohio Revised Code, until the person chooses an alternative supplier.

It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board Section 4: concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board and that the deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, incompliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Date: 6.7.2018

Trustee

Trustee

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#### **EXHIBIT A-3**

#### **OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE PLAN**

# Trebely ENERGY



# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PROGRAM

# OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE PLAN

Prepared by:

Trebeluc

Adopted on December (2), 2018

#### I. <u>Overview</u>

In November 2018, a majority of voters authorized the Washington Township ("Township") to create a form of government electric aggregation known as "opt-out" aggregation and to create an opt-out electric aggregation program ("the Aggregation Program") as provided under Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code. Under the optout electric aggregation program, all eligible electric consumers within the Township's limits will be automatically included in the Aggregation Program initially. However, all consumers will also be given the opportunity to opt out of or decline participation in the Aggregation Program as detailed herein. Additionally, Participants who leave the Aggregation Program and wish to return, consumers who affirmatively choose to participate in the Aggregation Program, and consumers who move into the Township after the initial opt-out period may be afforded the opportunity to enroll in the Aggregation Program on an opt-in basis.

The purpose of the Aggregation Program is to represent local consumer interests in competitive electricity markets by combining multiple electric loads within the Township's limits and negotiating affordable, reliable electric supplies and other related services on behalf of the Township's residents and small commercial consumers. The Township may pursue this purpose individually or in cooperation with other legislative authorities.

Many small commercial and residential electric consumers lack the knowledge, expertise, and bargaining power to effectively negotiate power supply rates and services. A governmental aggregation program provides these consumers with an option for expert representation and the bargaining power of a larger, more diverse consumer group that may be more attractive to suppliers, allowing them to effectively participate in the competitive process and achieve the benefits of retail electric competition.

The Aggregation Program is designed to combine multiple electric loads in order to obtain discounted energy costs for those who participate in the Aggregation Program, and/or to gain other favorable economic and non-economic terms in supply agreements. The Township will not buy and resell power, but will act as the agent for the Aggregation Program, representing the collective interests of the consumers in the Township to establish the terms and conditions for service. Through a negotiation process, the Township and its Consultant will develop a contract with a Competitive Retail Electric Services Provider (CRES Provider) or Providers for firm, all-requirements electric service. The contract will run for a fixed term (e.g., one to five years).

The Aggregation Program covers the power supply or generation portion of a Participant's electric bill. AEP or Ohio Edison will continue to deliver electricity to Aggregation Program Participants' homes and businesses through the electric transmission and distribution system as an electric distribution utility function regulated by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). AEP or Ohio Edison will also continue to install, operate and maintain their systems of poles, wires, transformers, and other electric distribution components. Aggregation Program Participants should continue to call AEP or Ohio Edison if their power goes out or if they have billing questions. The PUCO will continue to oversee AEP and Ohio Edison electric safety and reliability service standards.

#### II. Process

Under an opt-out aggregation program, each eligible consumer within the Township's boundaries initially will be automatically included in the Aggregation Program on a nondiscriminatory basis. However, prior to actual enrollment, each consumer for whom electric rates, terms, and conditions have been negotiated will receive a notice from the Township detailing the Aggregation Program's rates, terms, and conditions.

Each consumer will then have a 21-day period to opt out of or decline to participate in the Aggregation Program without additional fees charged. Consumers opting out of the program will remain on AEP or Ohio Edison's Standard Offer Generation Service until such time as they select an approved CRES Provider. If the term of the Aggregation Program is longer than three years, a similar opt-out period will be offered every three years during which time consumers can leave the Aggregation Program without paying an early termination fee or penalty.

Participants who leave the Aggregation Program and wish to return, consumers who affirmatively choose to participate in the Aggregation Program, and consumers who move into the Township after the initial opt-out period will be afforded the opportunity to enroll in the Aggregation Program on an opt-in basis. However, the Township cannot guarantee rates, terms, and conditions to consumers enrolling in the Aggregation Program after the initial 21-day opt-out period. In the event that a consumer is not initially included in the Aggregation Program and the consumer chooses to participate in the Aggregation Program after it has begun, that consumer may participate in the Aggregation Program by executing a contract to enroll in the established Aggregation Program with the selected CRES Provider delineating the rates, terms, and conditions prior to being placed into the Aggregation Program.

Participants who relocate within the Township's limits and retain the same electric account number will be allowed to continue in the Aggregation Program at their new location under the same terms and conditions as their former location, provided the utility rate classification is the same at both locations, and subject to any switching fees imposed by the electric distribution utility.

The Township, through its Consultant, will negotiate a contract with a CRES Provider to implement and operate the Aggregation Program. Contracts for power supply and other related services will be negotiated, recommended, and monitored for compliance by the Township's Consultant on behalf of local consumers.

The Township developed this Plan of Operation and Governance in compliance with Ohio law regarding governmental aggregation programs and opt-out aggregation of electric consumers.

After adoption of this Plan of Operation and Governance by resolution or ordinance pursuant to Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Township will file such Plan

with the PUCO and will likewise maintain its certification as a governmental aggregator with the PUCO and its registration as a governmental aggregator with AEP and Ohio Edison.

#### III. Plan of Operation and Governance

#### A. Definitions

- 1. Aggregation: Combining the electric loads of multiple customers for the purpose of supplying or arranging for the supply of competitive retail electric service to those customers.
- 2. Aggregation Program Manager or Consultant: The individual or company retained by the Township to oversee the operation and management of the Township's Aggregation Program.
- 3. **Competitive Retail Electric Service (CRES):** A component of retail electric service that is deemed competitive under the Ohio Revised Code or pursuant to an order of the PUCO. This includes, but is not limited to, the services provided by competitive retail electric service providers, power marketers, aggregators, and governmental aggregators.
- 4. **Competitive Retail Electric Service Provider (CRES Provider):** A person or entity certified by the PUCO and registered with an electric distribution utility which supplies or offers to supply a competitive retail electric service over an electric distribution utility's transmission and/or distribution system. This term does not apply to an electric distribution utility in its provision of standard offer generation service.
- 5. **Consumer:** Any person or entity that is an end user of electricity and is connected to any part of the applicable electric distribution utility's transmission and/or distribution system within the Township's boundaries.
- 6. **Delivery Charge:** Charge imposed by the electric distribution utility for delivering electricity to a consumer's home or business. The charge includes meter reading, billing, maintaining electric system reliability and responding during emergencies and outages (also called a distribution charge).
- 7. **Distribution:** The delivery of electricity to a consumer's home or business over an electric distribution utility's local poles, wires, transformers, substations, and other equipment. Electric distribution utilities' distribution system operations are regulated by the PUCO.

- 8. Electric-Related Service: A service that is directly related to the consumption of electricity at a consumer's home or business. This may include, but is not limited to, the installation of demand side management measures at a consumer's premises, the maintenance, repair or replacement of appliances, lighting, motors or other energy-consuming devices at a consumer's premises, and the provision of energy consumption measurement and billing services.
- 9. **Electric Supply Charge:** All charges related to the supply of generation of electricity by the CRES Provider.
- 10. **Governmental Aggregator:** An incorporated village or city, township, or county acting as an aggregator for the provision of a CRES under authority conferred by Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- 11. **Kilowatt-hour (kWh):** A kilowatt-hour is 1,000 watts of electricity used for one hour. For example, a 1,000-watt appliance operating for one hour will consume one kilowatt-hour of electricity. Consumers are charged for electricity in cents per kilowatt-hour.
- 12. **Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC):** The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) was established by the Ohio Legislature in 1976 to represent the interests of Ohio's residential utility customers served by investor-owned utilities in proceedings before the PUCO, other regulatory agencies, and in the courts.
- 13. **Participant:** An eligible consumer enrolled in the Township's Aggregation Program.
- 14. **Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO):** The state agency charged with assuring that all residential and business consumers have access to adequate, safe, and reliable utility services at fair prices, while facilitating an environment that provides competitive choices.
- 15. **Standard Offer Generation Service:** The electric generation service a consumer will receive from its default electric service provider if the customer does not choose a CRES Provider.

#### B. Aggregation Program Management

Due to the complexity of the electric utility industry, the Township has entered into an Energy Management and Consulting Agreement with the Consultant to provide the necessary expertise to represent the Township's interests in legislative and regulatory matters and to serve as the Aggregation Program Manager. Such services may include, but are not limited to, overall management of the Aggregation Program, facilitating consumer enrollment and the opt-out process, assisting with consumer education, addressing consumer questions and concerns, providing reports on program operation, negotiating CRES Provider contracts, providing analysis and review of the Township's energy service usage and costs, and providing consulting services to aggregate and procure energy and/or energy-related services, products, and accounts, and representing the Township in dealings with CRES Providers, the Ohio Legislature, the PUCO, and the OCC.

The CRES Provider's rates will include an administrative fee, which shall be collected to fund the implementation and administration of the Township's Aggregation Program, including consulting fees. The administrative fee may be adjusted annually to cover the Township's cost of administering the program, including consulting fees.

Oversight of the Aggregation Program will be the responsibility of the Township's Consultant, in consultation with the Township. The Consultant, in consultation with the Township, will have the authority to develop specifications for the Aggregation Program. The CRES Provider will work under the direction of the Consultant with the advice and counsel of the Township.

#### C. Selection of a CRES Provider and Contract

The Township will not buy and resell power to Aggregation Program Participants. The Township, through its Consultant, will negotiate with potential CRES providers to provide affordable, reliable electric supply, and other electricrelated services on behalf of local consumers. The Township will consider cooperating with other governmental aggregators if it appears beneficial to do so.

Through a negotiation process driven by its Consultant, the Township will develop a contract with a CRES Provider or Providers for firm, all-requirements service. Each Aggregation Program 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 Township will contract only with a CRES Provider that possesses, at a minimum, the following criteria:

- 1. Is certified as a CRES Provider by the PUCO;
- 2. Is registered with AEP and Ohio Edison;
- 3. Has a service agreement under AEP and Ohio Edison's Open Access Transmission Tariff;
- 4. Has successfully completed Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) computer system testing with AEP and Ohio Edison, and the CRES Provider's EDI computer system is capable of effectively processing Aggregation Program EDI transactions in a timely manner;

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- 5. Will maintain a database of Aggregation Program Participants, which will include all necessary information for the CRES Provider, Township, and Consultant to serve and manage the Aggregation Program;
- 6. Meets standards of creditworthiness established by the PUCO and/or the electric distribution utility;
- 7. Has or has arranged for a customer call center capable of effectively handling Participants' questions, concerns and disputes in a timely manner using a toll-free telephone number;
- 8. Holds the Township harmless from any financial obligations arising from offering electricity and/or energy-related services to Aggregation Program Participants; and
- 9. Will assist the Township and its Consultant with the filing of reports required by Ohio law and the PUCO.

The CRES Provider's contract will run for a fixed term (e.g., one to five years) and contain all pricing, charges, switching fees, etc. in clear and easily understandable terms.

The Township will require any CRES Provider to disclose any subcontractors that it uses in fulfillment of the services described herein.

#### D. Electric Supply Charges

The Township, through its Consultant, will aggregate electric loads within the Township's applicable boundaries (including Township facilities) and negotiate mutually agreeable pricing, terms, and conditions of service with the CRES Provider for affordable, reliable electric supplies and other related services on behalf of Participants. The Township may pursue this purpose individually or in cooperation with other legislative authorities. CRES Providers will supply information on electric supply charges by utility customer rate classification or other appropriate pricing category as approved by the Township. All electric supply charges will be fully and prominently disclosed in consumer enrollment materials, the opt-out notice, and will be subject to approval by the Township.

#### E. AEP and Ohio Edison's Regulated Customer Classifications and Rates

The applicable electric distribution utility assigns customer rate classifications, character of service, and associated regulated rates subject to PUCO-approved tariffs. In addition to the CRES Provider's generation supply charges, consumers will continue to be billed for AEP or Ohio Edison's service and delivery charges. Although the Township may participate in regulatory proceedings and represent the interests of consumers regarding these regulated rates, it cannot assign or alter customer rate classifications.

It is the intention of the Township to offer its Aggregation Program to eligible residential and non-mercantile commercial customers in any and all customer classifications, and in all rate categories, for which the CRES Provider can offer discounted energy costs available for those who participate in the Aggregation Program and/or other favorable economic and non-economic terms in supply agreements compared to the electric distribution utility's avoidable costs or price to compare or Standard Offer Generation Service.

#### F. Developing the Pool of Eligible Accounts

The Township or its Consultant shall request the electric distribution utility to provide current customer information for all customers within the Township's boundaries. The provided information shall include the following:

- Customer name;
- Customer service address;
- Customer billing address;
- Electric distribution utility customer account number;
- Electric distribution utility rate code;
- Electric distribution utility PIPP code;
- Customer load data;
- Whether or not a customer has a present contract with a CRES Provider; and
- Whether or not a customer has a special service contract with the electric distribution utility.

From this information, the Township, its Consultant, and the CRES Provider will develop the pool of customers eligible to participate in the Aggregation Program, for which the CRES Provider can offer discounted energy cost for those who participate in the Aggregation Program and/or other favorable economic and non-economic terms in supply agreements.

#### G. Initial Consumer Notification and Enrollment

After contract approval by the Township and its Consultant, the CRES Provider will work with the Township, its Consultant, and the electric distribution utility to identify all eligible consumers within the Township's boundaries.

All eligible consumers will be notified in writing of the rates, charges, and other terms and conditions of participation in the Aggregation Program and that they will be automatically enrolled in the Aggregation Program unless they opt out of or decline participation in the Aggregation Program. Consumers will be given 21 days

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from the postmark date of the opt-out letter in which to notify the Township that they wish to opt out of or decline participation in the Aggregation Program without penalty or fees. Consumers opting out of the program will remain on the applicable distribution utility's Standard Offer Generation Service until such time as they select an approved CRES Provider.

Consumers may opt out of the Aggregation Program by returning a post card, by calling a toll-free number, or by any other means or form provided in the opt-out letter.

After the initial 21-day opt out period has elapsed, all eligible consumers who have not notified the Township of their desire to opt out of the Aggregation Program will be enrolled automatically by the CRES Provider at the earliest date practicable. No other affirmative steps will be required of consumers in order to be included in the Aggregation Program as Participants.

Consumers ineligible to participate in the Aggregation Program include those customer accounts that are located outside the Township's boundaries, customers who are already in contract with a CRES provider, customers in a "special rate" contract with an electric distribution utility, and Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) consumers and consumers whose accounts are not current with their present electric distribution utility, as appropriate. The aggregation of PIPP customers is under the direction of the State of Ohio.

Consumers enrolled in the Aggregation Program by the CRES Provider will receive a letter from their electric distribution utility notifying them of their enrollment. Consumers will have seven calendar days to notify the electric distribution utility of any objection to their enrollment in the Aggregation Program. The applicable electric distribution utility will notify the CRES Provider of consumer objections or any reason that a consumer was not enrolled in the Aggregation Program and the CRES Provider will maintain a list of customers who have opted out under the Aggregation Program rules.

The CRES Provider will report to the Township the status of the Aggregation Program enrollment on at least a quarterly basis.

#### H. Leaving the Aggregation Program

In addition to the initial opt-out period described above, each Participant will be given an opportunity to opt out of the Aggregation Program every three years without paying an early termination fee or penalty as required by law and PUCO rules. Consumers who choose to opt out of the Aggregation Program at any time other than during the initial 21-day opt-out period or during subsequent opt-out periods offered by the Township may be subject to an early termination fee and may not be served under the same rates, terms, and conditions that apply to other customers served by the electric distribution utility.

Any consumer who opts out of the Aggregation Program during the initial opt-out period or subsequent opt-out periods will be returned to their electric distribution utility's Standard Offer Generation Service until such time as the consumer selects another approved CRES Provider.

#### I. CRES Provider Responsibilities

The CRES Provider will build and maintain a database of all Aggregation Program Participants. The database will include the name, address, utility service delivery identification (SDI) number, and other pertinent information as agreed upon by the Township, Consultant, and the CRES Provider. Such information may include the CRES Provider's account number (if different from utility's SDI number), rate code, rider code (if applicable), most recent 12 months of kWh consumption and kW demand, and meter reading cycle. The Aggregation Program database will be updated at least quarterly. The Township and its Consultant will have the right to access information in the database for purposes of auditing.

The CRES Provider will provide and maintain the required Electronic Data Interchange computer system to effectively process Aggregation Program enrollments, opt outs, billing, etc., with the applicable electric distribution utility.

The CRES Provider will provide a local or toll-free telephone number for Participant questions or concerns about enrollment, opt-out provisions, billing, and other Aggregation Program issues.

The CRES Provider will develop internal controls and processes to help ensure that the Township remains in good standing as a governmental aggregator that complies with all laws, rules, and regulations regarding the same as they may be periodically amended.

#### J. <u>New and Returning Participants</u>

Participants who leave the Aggregation Program and wish to return, consumers who affirmatively choose to participate in the Aggregation Program, and consumers who move into the Township after the initial opt-out period will be afforded the opportunity to enroll in the Aggregation Program on an opt-in basis. However, the Township cannot guarantee rates, terms, and conditions to consumers enrolling in the Aggregation Program after the initial 21-day opt-out period. In the event that a consumer is not initially included in the Aggregation Program and the consumer chooses to participate in the Aggregation Program after it has begun, that consumer may participate in the Aggregation Program by executing a contract to



enroll in the established Aggregation Program with the selected CRES Provider delineating the rates, terms, and conditions prior to being placed into the Aggregation Program. Consumers may contact the Township's Consultant to obtain current enrollment information and the applicable contract to opt-in to the established Aggregation Program.

Participants who relocate within the Township limits and retain the same electric utility account number will be allowed to continue in the Aggregation Program at their new location under the same terms and conditions as at their former location, provided the electric utility rate classification is the same at both locations, and subject to any switching fees imposed by the consumer's former electric distribution utility. The CRES Provider will comply with all local, state and federal rules and regulations regarding discontinuing service to Aggregation Program Participants.

#### K. Billing

At this time, the Township plans to utilize the applicable electric distribution utility's consolidated billing service in which each consumer account receives one bill itemizing the CRES Provider's electric supply charges and electric distribution utility's delivery, and other PUCO-approved charges. The billing statement will be consistent with applicable PUCO rules and regulations. The Township will consider other billing options, including CRES Provider consolidated or dual billing, if and when they become available and if it appears advantageous to do so.

#### L. Questions and Concerns

The Aggregation Program impacts the source of generation or power supply of electricity to the applicable electric distribution utility. The applicable electric distribution utility will continue to deliver the electricity purchased through the Aggregation Program to Participants' homes and businesses through its electric transmission and distribution system.

Participants with questions or concerns regarding service delivery or safety, such as a power outage, a downed power line, sparking power lines or equipment, low voltage, etc., should continue to contact their electric distribution utility. Meter reading or other billing questions should also be directed to their electric distribution utility. Questions regarding Aggregation Program enrollment and opting out should be directed to the CRES Provider. Any other general questions regarding the Aggregation Program should be directed to the Township's Consultant.

Question or Concern	Contact	Phone Number
Power outage or interruption	AEP	1-800-672-2231
	or	
	Ohio Edison	1-888-544-4877
Connect/disconnect service	AEP	1-800-672-2231
	or	
	Ohio Edison	1-800-633-4766
Meter reading/billing	AEP	1-800-672-2231
	or	
	Ohio Edison	1-800-633-4766
Enrollment in or opting	CRES Provider	1-888-XXX-XXXX
out of Aggregation Program	Trebel LLC	1-877-861-2772
Aggregation Program Questions or Concerns	Trebel LLC	1-877-861-2772
Unresolved disputes	PUCO	1-800-686-7826 (voice) 1-800-686-1570 (TDD)

#### M. Reliability and Indemnification of Consumers

Electric service reliability is essential to Aggregation Program Participants. The Township will strive to provide high-quality service and reliability through provisions of the CRES Provider contract, through traditional proceedings related to your electric distribution utility's regulated distribution service, and through direct discussions with your electric distribution utility concerning specific or general problems related to quality and reliability of its transmission and distribution system.

If for any reason a CRES Provider fails to provide uninterrupted service, the Township and its Consultant will attempt to acquire an alternative power supply. If this attempt fails, Participants will default to the applicable electric utility's Standard Offer Generation Service. In no case will Participants be without power as a result of the CRES Provider's failure to provide the supply of generation. The Township and its Consultant will seek to minimize this risk by contracting only with reputable CRES Providers that have demonstrated reliable service. The Township, through its Consultant, also intends to include conditions in its CRES Provider contract that will indemnify Participants against risks or problems with power supply service and price.

#### N. Participant Rights

All Aggregation Program Participants shall enjoy the protections of law afforded to consumers as they currently exist or as they may be amended from time to time. These include rights to question billings or service quality or service practices. All consumers shall also enjoy the individual right to decline participation in the Aggregation Program subject to the terms and conditions contained herein.

All Aggregation Program Participants will be treated equitably. They will be guaranteed the rights to raise and resolve disputes with the CRES Provider, be provided all required notices and information, and always retain the right to opt out of the Aggregation Program or switch suppliers subject to the terms and conditions contained herein.

All Consumers within the Township's boundaries shall be eligible to participate in the Aggregation Program on a non-discriminatory basis, subject to the terms and conditions described herein, Ohio law, PUCO rules and regulations governing electric service, and the applicable electric utility's approved tariffs.

Service under the Aggregation Program shall be available to all eligible customer classes. CRES Provider contracts shall also contain non-discrimination provisions to ensure the equitable treatment of all customer classes.

Low-income consumers shall remain subject to all provisions of Ohio law and PUCO rules and regulations as they may be amended from time to time regarding their rights to participate in the Aggregation Program.

#### O. Participant Responsibilities

Aggregation Program Participants are subject to the same standards and responsibilities as other electric consumers, including payment of billings and access to metering and other equipment necessary to carry out utility operations.

#### P. <u>Termination of the Aggregation Program</u>

The Aggregation Program may be discontinued upon the termination or expiration of the CRES Provider contract without any extension, renewal, or subsequent contract being executed. In the event of Aggregation Program termination, each

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Participant will receive written notification of the termination at least 60 days prior to such program termination and will have the option to return to the applicable electric utility's Standard Generation Offer Service or select another approved CRES Provider.

1311-001.614912v1



#### **EXHIBIT A-4**

#### AUTOMATIC AGGREGATION DISCLOSURE

# Trebels) ENERGY



#### Washington Township Richland County



March 28, 2019

«Name\_on\_Bill» «Mailing\_Address» «Mailing\_City\_», «Mailing\_State» «Mailing\_Zip\_»

#### Washington Township Electric Government Aggregation Program with Volunteer Energy

Dear Washington Township Resident,

Washington Township (the "Township") is providing you with the opportunity to join with other residents and small commercial customers in the Township's Electric Government Aggregation Program. Savings are possible through a concept called government aggregation, where Township officials bring together citizens to gain group-buying power for the purchase of Electric from a retail supplier. Both the Township and the supplier are certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Township voters approved this program in November 2018.

During the past few months, we have researched options for competitive electric pricing for you. We have chosen Volunteer Energy Services Inc, ("Volunteer Energy") an Ohio based corporation to provide you with electric for the term of May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2022 (the term).

**Price:** Under this agreement, Volunteer Energy is pleased to offer Electric for your Residence at a fixed rate of \$.0492 per kwh In AEP and Ohio Edison (OE) territories. Your business will be a fixed rate of \$.0485 per kwh in AEP and \$.0502 per kwh in OE. If you are ever unhappy with your rate, you may leave the program free of charge at any time and return to AEP or OE. Please refer to the attached Terms and Conditions for full details of this offer.

You will be automatically enrolled, (as a new Participant) in the Township's Electric Governmental Aggregation Program unless you choose to "opt out"—that is, affirmatively choose not to participate. If you wish to be excluded from the program you can call Volunteer Energy toll free at 1-800-977-8374 or return the enclosed "Opt-Out" form by April 18, 2019. Otherwise, you will be included in the aggregation program. There is no cost for the enrollment and you will not be charged a switching fee.

Volunteer Energy offers budget billing. If you wish to enroll in the budget billing program for Generation Service, please call Volunteer Energy at 1-800-977-8374.

After you become a participant in the Township's Electric aggregation program, AEP or OE will send a letter confirming your selection of Volunteer Energy as your electric provider. As required by law, this letter will inform you of your option to cancel your enrollment with Volunteer Energy within seven business days of its postmark date. To remain in the Township's government aggregation program, you don't need to take any action when this letter arrives. You will be automatically enrolled.

The Utility Co (AEP or OE) will always be responsible for ensuring the distribution of Electric to your premises and will continue to maintain your meter, the monthly reads and the lines that deliver Electric to your premises. Your Electric bill will also continue to come from the Utility Co. The only change you'll notice is the name of your new electric supplier, Volunteer Energy, with the new rate included on your bill.

If you have any questions, please call Volunteer Energy toll free at 1-800-977-8374 Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Regards

Washington Township

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.

## Electric Aggregation - Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is governmental aggregation of electricity?

Ohio's laws allow for communities - such as Washington Township, cities, villages and counties - to form aggregated buying groups on behalf of their citizens. Savings are possible through governmental aggregation, where community officials bring together residential and small commercial customers to gain group buying power for the purchase of electricity from a retail electric provider.

#### How is the Township able to choose a certified electric generation supplier on my behalf?

In November 2018, Washington Township residents voted to allow the Trustees to contract for an electric generation supplier on their behalf.

# If I join the Township's electric aggregation program, who will deliver my power, read my meter and respond to emergencies, such as power outages?

Your local electric company (AEP or Ohio Edison) will be responsible for the delivery of power to your home or business. Since your local

electric utility still owns the wires and poles that deliver power to you, it will continue to read your meter and restore power after an outage.

#### What do I need to do to be included in the aggregation program?

You do not need to do anything to receive the pricing offered under this program. You may choose to remain part of the aggregation program and begin receiving the negotiated rates simply by not returning the opt-out form.

#### What if I don't want to participate?

Since all eligible residential and small commercial customers are automatically enrolled in the governmental aggregation program, those customers who do not want to participate are given the opportunity to opt-out. By returning an opt-out form by the due date, you can choose not to be enrolled as an electric generation and transmission customer of the community's competitive electric generation and transmission supplier.

#### How will billing be handled?

You will receive one bill from the utility (AEP or Ohio Edison) that contains your charges for distribution, transmission, and maintenance service from the utility as well as Volunteer Energy's charges for generation. Your total charges from Volunteer Energy will fluctuate from month to month according to your usage.

#### Is Budget Billing available?

If you are currently of a "Budget" billing plan with your utility, you will be automatically enrolled into the Volunteer Energy budget plan. If you are not currently participating in a budget program with your utility, please call Volunteer Energy at 1-800-977-8374 to enroll.

#### 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.

#### Who do I call if I have a problem with my electric service?

If you have an outage, see fallen power lines, or require emergency repairs, you will continue to contact AEP Ohio Power

Company at 1-800-672-2231 or Firstenergy at 1-888-544-4877.

#### What is the toll-free number for questions?

If you have any questions, please call Volunteer Energy at 1-800-977-8374, Monday through Friday between 9 am - 4 pm.

We encourage you to review the details of the offer as further defined in the enclosed Terms and Condition.



#### **OHIO EDISON, A FIRSTENERGY COMPANY**

#### I. ENERGY SERVICES

During the relevant term Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. ("VE") shall supply and deliver to Customer all of the retail energy requirements at each Service Location (the "Retail Energy"). The Retail Energy is delivered to the distribution system's interconnection point (each, a "Delivery Point") of the relevant electric distribution company, ("EDC"), and the relevant EDC is responsible for delivery of the Retail Energy to Customer's meter at and from that point. Customer designates VE as an authorized recipient of Customer's account, billing and usage information. Customer consents to the disclosure by each EDC to VE of certain basic information about Customer including: Customer number, meter number, meter read data, rate class, billing and payment information, account name, service address, billing address, and telephone number.

#### **II. TERM OF AGREEMENT**

VE shall use commercially reasonable efforts to commence service under this Agreement upon the later the start date referenced in the Opt-Out Letter or the first available meter read date, as determined by the EDC, after the date hereof, and after VE receives confirmation that the EDC has completed its processing and has accepted the delivery service request (the "Start Date"). VE shall not be liable for any lost savings or lost opportunity as a result of a delay in service commencement due to actions or inactions of the EDC. The term of this Agreement shall continue through **April 2022** unless sooner terminated hereunder.

#### III. PRICING

This is a full requirements Agreement for residential and small commercial customers. Residential customers, you agree to pay the Price of **\$0.0492/kWh** to total usage per Account as reported by the Utility each month. Small commercial customers, you agree to pay the Price of **\$0.0502/kWh** to total usage per Account as reported by the Utility each month. The Price includes energy, congestion, capacity, ancillary services, losses, Auction Revenue Rights ("ARR"), and Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) compliance costs. Unless otherwise noted, the Rate does not include taxes, regulated charges from the Utility, including, but not limited to, Utility delivery and distribution charges, customer account fees or other Utility transmission charges. Customer agrees to maintain electric usage patterns similar to those exhibited within the preceding 365 calendar days.

#### IV. BILLING and PAYMENT

**A.** <u>General Billing and Payment Terms</u>: VE shall provide monthly invoices, either through utility consolidated billing (UCB) or supplier consolidated billing (SCB). VE may estimate bills in cases where actual billing determinants are unavailable, and estimated bills shall be adjusted as soon as reasonably practicable. In the event Customer is billed by VE, Customer shall pay all amounts owing within fourteen (14) days after issuance of the invoice. In the event Customer is billed by the EDC, payment is due to the EDC by the date specified in its bill. Late payments shall incur interest charges at a rate of interest equal to a per annum rate of eighteen percent (18%) or the maximum allowed under applicable law, whichever is less. In any instance where any payment to VE is declined by the issuing institution, Customer shall be assessed a charge of \$30 or the maximum allowed under applicable law (whichever is less) per declined payment. Customer shall be liable for all costs incurred by VE, including attorney's fees, for collections on accounts greater than thirty (30) calendar days past due. As an option, VE will offer **budget billing** to residential Customers in good standing. The budget billing amount is based on a projection of the participating Customer's energy usage for the remaining term of the Program calculated using twelve (12) months historical usage, where available, plus an adder determined by VE to minimize future true-up amounts.

B. Disputes and Adjustments of Invoices: Customer may, in good faith, dispute in writing the correctness of any invoice. In the event that an invoice or portion thereof is disputed, payment of the undisputed portion of the invoice shall be made within normal terms, with notice of the dispute given to VE in writing and stating the amount and basis for the dispute. If you have a complaint, you may call VE's Customer Support Line at (800) 977-8374 every Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 8:30 AM through 4:30 PM "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 http://www.puco.ohio.gov. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service). All customers have the right to contact the PUCO regarding complaints and disputes: The Ohio consumers' council (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. weekdays, or at http://www.pickocc.org. Upon resolution of the dispute, any required payment shall be made within five (5) business days of such resolution along with interest accrued at the per annum rate of eighteen percent (18%) or the maximum allowed under applicable law, whichever is less.

#### V. RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall only be renewed or extended in compliance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code relating to Governmental Aggregation Programs.

#### **VI. CONFIDENTIALITY**

Both Parties agree that the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall remain confidential, except for any required disclosure to any regulatory body, governmental entity or agency having jurisdiction, or disclosure to accountants, attorneys, or other professionals acting on behalf of the disclosing Party.



#### **OHIO EDISON, A FIRSTENERGY COMPANY**

#### **VII. NOTICES**

Any notice or other document to be given or served hereunder or under any document or instrument executed pursuant hereto shall be in writing and shall be delivered to any of the address specified on Offer.

#### VIII. EVENTS OF DEFAULT

Α. Definition: An "Event of Default" shall mean, with respect to the applicable Party to whom the following applies (the "Defaulting Party"), the occurrence of any of the following: (a) the failure of such Party to make, when due, any payment required pursuant to this Agreement if such failure is not remedied within three (3) business days after written notice and demand of payment; (b) any representation or warranty made by such Party herein being false or misleading in any material respect when made or ceases to remain true during any term; (c) the failure of such Party to perform any obligation set forth in this Agreement and such failure is not remedied within five (5) business days after written notice; (d) Customer files a petition or otherwise commences. authorizes or acquiesces in the commencement of a proceeding or cause of action bankruptcy or (e) Customer's failure to cooperate with VE as reasonably required in order for VE to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

**B.** <u>Suspension and No Early Termination</u>: If an Event of Default occurs, the Party that is not the Defaulting Party (the "Non-Defaulting Party") may, at its option and in its sole discretion, take any one or more of the following actions (1) suspend its performance under this Agreement; or (2) terminate this Agreement by sending written notice to the Defaulting Party provided the termination date for this Agreement (the "Early Termination Notice"). In the event of such suspension or an early termination, Customer shall pay to VE all amounts owed under this Agreement, including amounts owed for delivered performance, whether or not then invoiced. There is no early termination fee.

#### IX. FORCE MAJEURE

"Force Majeure" shall mean an event which prevents the claiming party (the "Claiming Party") from performing its obligations and is not within the reasonable control of, or the result of the negligence of, the Claiming Party, such as, but not limited to, acts of God; fire; flood; terrorism; breach by the EDC; electric grid interruption; earthquake; war; riot; actions or failure to act on the part of governmental authorities. The non-Claiming Party shall not be required to perform its obligations to the Claiming Party for the period of the Force Majeure. If the Force Majeure continues for a period in excess of thirty (30) calendar days (an "Extended Force Majeure Event"), the performing Party may terminate this Agreement by providing the other Party written notice of the early termination, without the termination for an Extended Force Majeure Event constituting an Event of Default.

#### X. GOVERNING LAW AND WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, without regard to its choice of law provisions. Any action arising out of this Agreement shall be filed in the Court of Common Pleas, Franklin County, Ohio. THE PARTIES ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE THAT THE RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY OF ANY SIZE IS IRREVOCABLY WAIVED.

#### XI. CHANGES IN LAW OR REGULATION

In the event that any change in any statute, rule, regulation, order or other law, or procedure, tariff, rate class or other process or charge, promulgated by any governmental authority or EDC, Independent Service Operator ("ISO"), Regional Transmission Operator ("RTO") or other regulated service provider, alters to the detriment of VE its costs to perform or its economic returns under this Agreement VE may revise the pricing under this Agreement to eliminate the impact of such. Before any such price revision, VE shall provide written notice to Customer with the resulting price revisions, and the date upon which such revised pricing shall be effective. Customer shall pay the revised price described in such notice, and all other terms and conditions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

#### XII. SEVERABILITY

The various provisions of this Agreement are severable. 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.

#### XIII. INDEMNITY

VE shall defend, indemnify, and hold Customer harmless against all claims and liabilities resulting from VE's negligence or breach of this Agreement and arising prior to the delivery of the Retail Energy to the relevant Delivery Point, except to the extent such claims and liabilities arise out of Customer's negligence or breach of this Agreement. Customer shall assume full responsibility for any damages or losses relating to the delivery of the Retail Energy at and after its delivery to the relevant Delivery Point and shall defend, indemnify, and hold VE harmless against all claims and liabilities arising at and after the delivery of the Retail Energy to the relevant Delivery Point, except to the extent such claims and liabilities arise out of VE's negligence or breach of this Agreement.

#### XIV. ASSIGNMENT

This Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of each Party's successors and permitted assigns. Neither Party shall assign this Agreement or its rights without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

### XV. WARRANTY, DISCLAIMER AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY



#### **OHIO EDISON, A FIRSTENERGY COMPANY**

VE warrants title to all Retail Energy delivered hereunder and sells such Retail Energy to Customer free from liens and adverse claims, THIS IS VE'S ONLY WARRANTY CONCERNING THE SERVICES PROVIDED HEREUNDER AND IS MADE EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES AND REPRESENTATIONS, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, MERCHANTABILITY OR OTHERWISE. EXCEPT AS PART OF ANY PAYMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS HEREOF, NEITHER PARTY SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, PUNITIVE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. IN ADDITION, VE'S AGGREGATE LIABILITY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE LIMITED TO AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE TOTAL OF THE FIRST TWO VE INVOICES REFLECTING THE ENERGY COST SPECIFIC TO CUSTOMER'S METER READS AS THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY, AND ALL OTHER REMEDIES OR DAMAGES AT LAW OR IN EQUITY ARE EXPRESSLY WAIVED. TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE UNDER LAW, ARTICLE 2 OF THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE SHALL APPLY TO THE RETAIL ENERGY SOLD HEREUNDER.

This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may only be amended by a written instrument executed by both Parties. This Agreement is effective only upon Customer's execution and VE's subsequent execution or performance of this Agreement.

#### XVII. ONSITE GENERATION

This Section is inapplicable to Governmental Aggregation Programs.

#### XVIII. STATE DISCLOSURES/RESCISSION

VE's Ohio Certification Number is 15-950E(2) as a CRES. Customer has the right to request from VE twice within a twelve (12) month period up to twenty-four (24) months of Customer's payment history without charge; Customer may be charged switching fees by the EDC. VE is prohibited from disclosing a customer's social security number and/or account number(s) without the customer's consent except to its own collections and credit reporting, participation in programs funded by the universal service fund pursuant to section <u>4928.52</u> of the Revised Code, or assigning a customer contract to another CRES provider.

**Rescission:** As a Residential you have the right to rescind this Agreement within seven (7) calendar days from the date of postmark of the Utility's confirmation notice you will receive upon enrollment with VESI. You may rescind by either contacting us at 800-977-VESI toll free during normal business hours or fax us a detailed written request to cancel at 614-856-3301. If you contact your Utility to rescind this Agreement, your Utility will give you a cancellation number to confirm the cancellation

#### XVI. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; AMENDMENT

P.S. Remember to return the opt-out form only if you do not want to participate in the Washington Township, Richland County Electric Governmental Aggregation Program.

OPT-OUT FORM FOR THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, RICHLAND COUNTY ELECTRIC GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM

□ I wish to opt out of the Washington Township, Richland County Electric Governmental Aggregation Program (Check box to opt out.)

Service Address: «Service_Address», «Service_City_», «Service	State», «Service Zip »
Phone Number:	Aggregation Opt Out #: «Aggregation Opt Out »
Printed Name: <u>«Name_on_Bill»</u>	Date:
Account holder's signature:	

Mail by April 18, 2019 To: Washington Township, Richland County Electric Governmental Aggregation Program; 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington, OH 43147



#### AEP Electric Aggregation Terms and Conditions

#### I. ENERGY SERVICES

During the relevant term Volunteer Energy Services, Inc. ("VE") shall supply and deliver to Customer all of the retail energy requirements at each Service Location (the "Retail Energy"). The Retail Energy is delivered to the distribution system's interconnection point (each, a "Delivery Point") of the relevant electric distribution company, ("EDC"), and the relevant EDC is responsible for delivery of the Retail Energy to Customer's meter at and from that point. Customer designates VE as an authorized recipient of Customer's account, billing and usage information. Customer consents to the disclosure by each EDC to VE of certain basic information about Customer including: Service Delivery Identifier number, meter number, meter read data, rate class, billing and payment information, account name, service address, billing address, and telephone number.

#### II. TERM OF AGREEMENT

VE shall use commercially reasonable efforts to commence service under this Agreement upon the later the start date referenced in the Opt-Out Letter or the first available meter read date, as determined by the EDC, after the date hereof, and after VE receives confirmation that the EDC has completed its processing and has accepted the delivery service request (the "Start Date"). VE shall not be liable for any lost savings or lost opportunity as a result of a delay in service commencement due to actions or inactions of the EDC. The term of this Agreement shall continue through **April 2022** unless sooner terminated hereunder.

#### III. PRICING

This is a full requirements Agreement for residential and small commercial customers. Residential customers, you agree to pay the Price of **\$0.0492/kWh** to total usage per Account as reported by the Utility each month. Small commercial customers, you agree to pay the Price of **\$0.0485/kWh** to total usage per Account as reported by the Utility each month. The Price includes energy, congestion, capacity, ancillary services, losses, Auction Revenue Rights ("ARR"), and Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) compliance costs. Unless otherwise noted, the Rate does not include taxes, regulated charges from the Utility, including, but not limited to, Utility delivery and distribution charges, customer account fees or other Utility transmission charges. Customer agrees to maintain electric usage patterns similar to those exhibited within the preceding 365 calendar days.

#### IV. BILLING and PAYMENT

**C.** <u>General Billing and Payment Terms:</u> VE shall provide monthly invoices, either through utility consolidated billing (UCB) or supplier consolidated billing (SCB). VE may estimate bills in cases where actual billing determinants are unavailable, and estimated bills shall be adjusted as soon as reasonably practicable. In the event Customer is billed by VE, Customer shall pay all amounts owing within fourteen (14) days after issuance of the invoice. In the event Customer is billed by the EDC, payment is due to the EDC by the date specified in its bill. Late payments shall incur interest charges at a rate of interest equal to a per annum rate of eighteen percent (18%) or the maximum allowed under applicable law, whichever is less. In any instance where any payment to VE is declined by the issuing institution, Customer shall be assessed a charge of \$30 or the maximum allowed under applicable law (whichever is less) per declined payment. Customer shall be liable for all costs incurred by VE, including attorney's fees, for collections on accounts greater than thirty (30) calendar days past due. As an option, VE will offer **budget billing** to residential Customers in good standing. The budget billing amount is based on a projection of the participating Customer's energy usage for the remaining term of the Program calculated using twelve (12) months historical usage, where available, plus an adder determined by VE to minimize future true-up amounts.

D. Disputes and Adjustments of Invoices: Customer may, in good faith, dispute in writing the correctness of any invoice. In the event that an invoice or portion thereof is disputed, payment of the undisputed portion of the invoice shall be made within normal terms, with notice of the dispute given to VE in writing and stating the amount and basis for the dispute. If you have a complaint, you may call VE's Customer Support Line at (800) 977-8374 every Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 8:30 AM through 4:30 PM "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 http://www.puco.ohio.gov. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service). All customers have the right to contact the PUCO regarding complaints and disputes. The Ohio consumers' council (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. weekdays, or at http://www.pickocc.org. Upon resolution of the dispute, any required payment shall be made within five (5) business days of such resolution along with interest accrued at the per annum rate of eighteen percent (18%) or the maximum allowed under applicable law, whichever is less.

#### V. RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall only be renewed or extended in compliance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code relating to Governmental Aggregation Programs.

#### VI. CONFIDENTIALITY

Both Parties agree that the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall remain confidential, except for any required disclosure to any regulatory body, governmental entity or agency having jurisdiction, or disclosure to accountants, attorneys, or other professionals acting on behalf of the disclosing Party.



#### AEP

#### Electric Aggregation Terms and Conditions

#### **VII. NOTICES**

Any notice or other document to be given or served hereunder or under any document or instrument executed pursuant hereto shall be in writing and shall be delivered to any of the address specified on Offer.

#### VIII. EVENTS OF DEFAULT

C. Definition: An "Event of Default" shall mean, with respect to the applicable Party to whom the following applies (the "Defaulting Party"), the occurrence of any of the following: (a) the failure of such Party to make, when due, any payment required pursuant to this Agreement if such failure is not remedied within three (3) business days after written notice and demand of payment; (b) any representation or warranty made by such Party herein being false or misleading in any material respect when made or ceases to remain true during any term; (c) the failure of such Party to perform any obligation set forth in this Agreement and such failure is not remedied within five (5) business days after written notice; (d) Customer files a petition or otherwise commences, authorizes or acquiesces in the commencement of a proceeding or cause of action bankruptcy or (e) Customer's failure to cooperate with VE as reasonably required in order for VE to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

**D.** Suspension and No Early Termination: If an Event of Default occurs, the Party that is not the Defaulting Party (the "Non-Defaulting Party") may, at its option and in its sole discretion, take any one or more of the following actions (1) suspend its performance under this Agreement; or (2) terminate this Agreement by sending written notice to the Defaulting Party provided the termination date for this Agreement (the "Early Termination Notice"). In the event of such suspension or an early termination, Customer shall pay to VE all amounts owed under this Agreement, including amounts owed for delivered performance, whether or not then invoiced. There is no early termination fee.

#### IX. FORCE MAJEURE

"Force Majeure" shall mean an event which prevents the claiming party (the "Claiming Party") from performing its obligations and is not within the reasonable control of, or the result of the negligence of, the Claiming Party, such as, but not limited to, acts of God; fire; flood; terrorism; breach by the EDC; electric grid interruption; earthquake; war; riot; actions or failure to act on the part of governmental authorities. The non-Claiming Party shall not be required to perform its obligations to the Claiming Party for the period of the Force Majeure. If the Force Majeure continues for a period in excess of thirty (30) calendar days (an "Extended Force Majeure Event"), the performing Party may terminate this Agreement by providing the other Party written notice of the early termination, without the termination for an Extended Force Majeure Event constituting an Event of Default.

X. GOVERNING LAW AND WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Ohio, without regard to its choice of law provisions. Any action arising out of this Agreement shall be filed in the Court of Common Pleas, Franklin County, Ohio. THE PARTIES ACKNOWLEDGE AND AGREE THAT THE RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY OF ANY SIZE IS IRREVOCABLY WAIVED.

#### XI. CHANGES IN LAW OR REGULATION

In the event that any change in any statute, rule, regulation, order or other law, or procedure, tariff, rate class or other process or charge, promulgated by any governmental authority or EDC, Independent Service Operator ("ISO"), Regional Transmission Operator ("RTO") or other regulated service provider, alters to the detriment of VE its costs to perform or its economic returns under this Agreement VE may revise the pricing under this Agreement to eliminate the impact of such. Before any such price revision, VE shall provide written notice to Customer with the resulting price revisions, and the date upon which such revised pricing shall be effective. Customer shall pay the revised price described in such notice, and all other terms and conditions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

#### XII. SEVERABILITY

The various provisions of this Agreement are severable. 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.

#### XIII. INDEMNITY

VE shall defend, indemnify, and hold Customer harmless against all claims and liabilities resulting from VE's negligence or breach of this Agreement and arising prior to the delivery of the Retail Energy to the relevant Delivery Point, except to the extent such claims and liabilities arise out of Customer's negligence or breach of this Agreement. Customer shall assume full responsibility for any damages or losses relating to the delivery of the Retail Energy at and after its delivery to the relevant Delivery Point and shall defend, indemnify, and hold VE harmless against all claims and liabilities arising at and after the delivery of the Retail Energy to the relevant Delivery Point, except to the extent such claims and liabilities arise out of VE's negligence or breach of this Agreement.

#### XIV. ASSIGNMENT

This Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of each Party's successors and permitted assigns. Neither Party shall assign this Agreement or its rights without the prior written consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

## XV. WARRANTY, DISCLAIMER AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY



#### AEP

Electric Aggregation Terms and Conditions

VE warrants title to all Retail Energy delivered hereunder and sells such Retail Energy to Customer free from liens and adverse claims. THIS IS VE'S ONLY WARRANTY CONCERNING THE SERVICES PROVIDED HEREUNDER AND IS MADE EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES AND REPRESENTATIONS, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, MERCHANTABILITY OR OTHERWISE. EXCEPT AS PART OF ANY PAYMENT OF THE SETTLEMENT AMOUNT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS HEREOF, NEITHER PARTY SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, PUNITIVE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. IN ADDITION. VE'S AGGREGATE LIABILITY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE LIMITED TO AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE TOTAL OF THE FIRST TWO VE INVOICES REFLECTING THE ENERGY COST SPECIFIC TO CUSTOMER'S METER READS AS THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY, AND ALL OTHER REMEDIES OR DAMAGES AT LAW OR IN EQUITY ARE EXPRESSLY WAIVED. TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE UNDER LAW, ARTICLE 2 OF THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE SHALL APPLY TO THE RETAIL ENERGY SOLD HEREUNDER.

XVI. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; AMENDMENT

This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may only be amended by a written instrument executed by both Parties. This Agreement is effective only upon Customer's execution and VE's subsequent execution or performance of this Agreement.

#### **XVII. ONSITE GENERATION**

This Section is inapplicable to Governmental Aggregation Programs.

#### XVIII. STATE DISCLOSURES/RESCISSION

VE's Ohio Certification Number is 15-950E(2) as a CRES. Customer has the right to request from VE twice within a twelve (12) month period up to twenty-four (24) months of Customer's payment history without charge; Customer may be charged switching fees by the EDC. VE is prohibited from disclosing a customer's social security number and/or account number(s) without the customer's consent except to its own collections and credit reporting, participation in programs funded by the universal service fund pursuant to section <u>4928.52</u> of the Revised Code, or assigning a customer contract to another CRES provider.

**Rescission:** As a Residential you have the right to rescind this Agreement within seven (7) calendar days from the date of postmark of the Utility's confirmation notice you will receive upon enrollment with VESI. You may rescind by either contacting us at 800-977-VESI toll free during normal business hours or fax us a detailed written request to cancel at 614-856-3301. If you contact your Utility to rescind this Agreement, your Utility will give you a cancellation number to confirm the cancellation.

P.S. Remember to return the opt-out form only if you do not want to participate in the Washington Township, Richland County Electric Governmental Aggregation Program.

OPT-OUT FORM FOR THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, RICHLAND COUNTY ELECTRIC GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM

□ I wish to opt out of the Washington Township, Richland County Electric Governmental Aggregation Program (Check box to opt out.)

Service Address		
Phone Number:	Aggregation Opt Out #:	
Name on Bill:	Date:	
Account holder's signature:	Dute	

Mail by April 18, 2019 To: Washington Township, Richland County Electric Governmental Aggregation Program; 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington, OH 43147

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 18-1825-EL-GAG

Summary: Application Renewal electronically filed by Mr. Scott Belcastro on behalf of Washington Township, Richland County, OH