

DIS Case Number: 13-0716-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: Village of North Bend Country: United States
Phone: 513-941- Extension (if applicable): Street: 21 Taylor Avenue

0610

Postal Code: 45052

# A-2. Contact person for regulatory matters

Rich Surace 8469 Blue Ash Rd., Suite 1 Cincinnati, OH 45236 US rsurace@energyalliances.com 5197451424

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

Rich Surace 8469 Blue Ash Rd., Suite 1 Cincinnati, OH 45236 US rsurace@energyalliances.com 5197451424

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

Phone: 800-735-0359 Extension (if Country: United States

applicable):

Fax: 513-794-7777 Extension (if applicable): Street: 8469 Blue Ash Rd., Suite 1



Postal Code: 45236

# **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**

# VILLAGE OF NORTH BEND, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO Electric Aggregation Program

# **EXHIBIT B-1 "AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE"**

Authorizing Ordinance – 3 Pages

# ORDINANCE 2012-05

AUTHORIZING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY
TO EFFECT A GOVERNMENTAL RETAIL
ELECTRIC LOADS AGGREGATION PROGRAM
WITH OPT-OUT PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION
4928.20, OHIO REVISED CODE, DIRECTING THE
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
TO SUBMIT A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE
ELECTORS AND AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH DUKE
ENERGY RETAIL SALES, LLC FOR SUCH
PURPOSES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Ohio Legislature has enacted legislation (R.C. 4928.20) which authorizes the Council of the Village of North Band to aggregate the retail electric loads located within the Village and to enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the purchase and sale of electricity; and

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

WHEREAS, this Village Council seeks to establish a governmental aggregation program with opt-out provisions pursuant to Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code (the "Aggregation Program"), for the residents, businesses and other electric consumers in the Village, as permitted by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of North Bend, Ohio \_\_\_\_\_ members elected thereto concurring, that:

SECTION 1. This Council finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the Village, its residents, businesses and other electric consumers located within the limits of the Village to establish the Electric Loads Aggregation Program in the Village. Provided that this Ordinance and the Electric Loads Aggregation Program is approved by the electors of the Village pursuant to Section 2 of this Ordinance, the Village is hereby authorized to aggregate in accordance with Section 4928.20, Ohio Revised Code, the retail electric loads located within the Village, and, for that purpose, to enter into service agreements to facilitate the sale and purchase of the service for the retail electric loads. The Village may exercise such authority using Duke Energy Retail Sales, LLC, an energy broker and aggregator certified by the Public Utilities Commission 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

SECTION 2. The Board of Elections of Hamilton County is hereby directed to submit the following question to the electors of the Village at the general election in November 2012.

# PROPOSED ELECTRIC AGGREGATION VILLAGE OF NORTH BEND A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage Shall the Village of North Bend have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located in the Village of North Bend, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity, such aggregation to occur any person elects to opt out, all in accordance with Section Code? YES NO

The Fiscal Officer of the Village is instructed immediately to file a certified copy of this Ordinance and the proposed form of the ballot question with the County Board of Electrions not less than ninety (90) days prior to the November 2012 general election. The Electric Loads Aggregation program shall not take effect unless approved by a majority of the electors voting upon this Ordinance and the Electric Loads 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 election provided for in Section 2 of this Ordinance, this Village Council through Duke Energy Retail Sales, LLC shall develop a plan of operation and governance for the Electric Loads Aggregation Program. Before adopting such plan, this Village Council or Duke Energy Retail Sales, LLC, on behalf of this Village Council, 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 Village. The notice shall summarize the plan and state the date, time, and location of each hearing. No plan adopted by this Village Council shall aggregate the electric load of any electric load center within the Village 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 Electric Loads 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 Electric Loads Aggregation Program the opportunity to opt out of the program at least every three

ROM :

years, without penalty or switching fee. Any such person that opts out of the Electric Loads Aggregation Program shall default to the utility's standard service offer provided under Section 4928.35, Ohio Revised Code, unless and until that person chooses a competitive retail electric supplier.

SECTION 4. This Village Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Village Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Village Council and that all deliberations of this Village Council and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the Village, and for further reason that this Ordinance is required to be immediately effective in order to file a certified copy of this Ordinance and the proposed form of the ballot question with the Board of Elections of Hamilton County not later than ninety (90) days prior to the November 2012 general election, as provided herein; wherefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.

SECTION 6. That the Village is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with Duke Energy Retail Sales, LLC for consulting services and any other required services related to electricity utility aggregation for the Village of North Bend and ratifying any such services heretofore performed. The Village is further authorized to enter into an agreement with either Duke Energy Retail Sales, LLC or any other supplier of the Village's choosing to serve as the supplier for the electric aggregation program.

Passed this 25th day of June, 2012.

Mayor Doug Sammons

Attest:

Ed Sullivan, Fiscal Officer

Approved as to form

James A) Reichert, Law Director

I, Ed Sullivan, Fiscal Officer of the Village of North Bend, Ohio, hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of the Ordinance duly adopted by the Council of the Village of North Bend, at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 25, 2012.

6-25-12

# VILLAGE OF NORTH BEND, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO Electric Aggregation Program EXHIBIT B-3 "OPT-OUT DISCLOSURE NOTICE" – 4 Pages





<FULLNAME>
<MAILING ADDRESS\_1>
<MAILING ADDRESS\_2>
<CITY>, <ST> <ZIP+4>

Welcome to the

North Bend

Electric Aggregation Program

Hi < Contact First NM>,

August 7, 2020

We are pleased to let you know that your community, Village of North Bend, has chosen Dynegy to be the preferred electricity supplier for you and your neighbors through its Electric Aggregation Program. In November 2012, your community gave the Village Council the authority to negotiate the most favorable electricity supply rate and terms for you. We are very proud to have been chosen to serve you!

#### Here's What You Can Expect

- The program is simple! You're automatically enrolled and there's no enrollment, switching or early termination fee.
- You'll receive a guaranteed, fixed rate of 5.09¢ per kWh through your May 2023 meter reading.
- You should see the new price on your bill within two billing cycles of receiving this letter!
- You will continue to receive one monthly bill from your local utility, Duke Energy. You'll
  notice that Dynegy will show as a line item for the supply portion on your bill.

#### **Secure Rate**

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Satisfaction Guaranteed

+

Trusted by Millions

#### Don't want to participate?

Just complete and return the reply card below or call Dynegy at 888-682-2170 by August 28, 2020. If you choose to opt out of the program at this time, or if you choose to leave the program at a later date, you will be served by Duke Energy under its standard service offer or until you choose an alternative supplier of electric service. If you switch back to your utility, you may not be served under the same rates, terms, and conditions that apply to other customers served by your utility.

To learn more about the program, please see the enclosed terms and conditions or visit <a href="https://www.dynegy.com/municipal-aggregation/communities-we-serve/Ohio/north-bend">https://www.dynegy.com/municipal-aggregation/communities-we-serve/Ohio/north-bend</a>.

With much appreciation,
Village of North Bend & Dynegy

See Reverse for Frequently Asked Questions

Commun	ity: Village of North Bend		
	I do not wish to take advantage of the favorable rate negotiated through the Village of North Bend Electric Aggregation Program. By checking this box, I understand that my electricity account will not be included in the program.		
This opt-or	ut card must be post marked by August 28, 2020 and mailed	to Dynegy, PO Box 650764 Dallas, Texas, 75265-0764	
Customer Name		Account Number	
Service A	ddress		
Service A	ddress		
Signature		Date	



#### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

#### What is an Electric Aggregation Program?

Aggregation is an opportunity for cities, townships and counties to negotiate competitive electricity supply rates and provide budget stability for their residents and small businesses.

First, residents must vote to give their community officials the ability to negotiate electricity rates for their community. Once a referendum is passed, communities are able to aggregate and elected officials can work with alternative energy suppliers to negotiate competitive electricity rates.

#### How was Dynegy chosen as the supplier?

Your community implemented a formal process where proposals from multiple suppliers were submitted for consideration. Dynegy was selected to be your preferred electricity supplier.

#### ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

#### Who is eligible to participate?

Residential and small business customers located in your community may participate. Customers enrolled with an alternative retail supplier will not be included in the initial program; however, they can call to be enrolled. Customers enrolled in PIPP (Percentage of Income Plan) are not eligible for the program.

#### How do I enroll?

It's simple. It's automatic. Unless you "opt-out" of the program, all eligible customer accounts within your community boundaries will be enrolled in the program as long as you are not participating in one of the programs mentioned above. You will receive a "switch" letter from your local utility company, confirming your enrollment.

# Do I have to participate in the aggregation program?

All eligible local utility company customers within your community will receive an opt-out notification letter via U.S. mail. You may "opt-out" by returning the Opt-Out card or calling Dynegy by the deadline date identified in your notification. If you choose to opt-out, your account remains with your local utility company at their current utility rate.

# If I don't want to be a part of the program, why do I have to opt-out?

The voters authorized the community to develop an aggregation program where each resident and small business is automatically enrolled. Therefore, if you prefer not to participate, you must opt out of the program.

What if I decide to opt-out after the opt-out deadlines have passed? You may opt out at any time by notifying us via telephone, email, or mail.

#### RATE AND TERM INFORMATION

# What are the Rates & Terms for this Aggregation Program?

Your competitive rate and terms are explained in your Terms and Conditions. Customers who are enrolled in the program should see the changes on their monthly electricity bill 45 to 60 days after enrollment.

# What if my local utility company's rate decreases?

If at any time during the term of your Agreement the local utility company's rates fall lower than the Dynegy price, you will have the option to return to the utility, your local electric company, without penalty.

# What happens at the end of the Agreement term?

At the end of the Agreement term, as defined in the Terms and Conditions, you have the option of staying with a new aggregation program, returning to your local utility company, or signing with a new supplier independent of the Aggregation program.

#### BILLING AND SERVICE

# Who will bill me for electricity? Will I get two bills?

You will continue to receive one monthly bill from your local utility company. The bill will include the charges for electricity supplied by Dynegy, as well as the delivery service charges from your local utility company.

# Can I still have my payment automatically deducted from my checking account?

Yes, how you pay your bill will not change.

# If I'm on budget billing with my utility, can I keep this program?

Dynegy accepts Duke, Ohio Edison, Toledo Edison and The Illuminating Company budget billing programs. If you would like to enroll in budget billing or have any additional questions, please contact your utility directly.

# Who do I call to report a power outage or problems with my electric service?

You will continue to call your local utility company for power outages, problems with your service or questions regarding your monthly bill.

# Who do I call if I have questions regarding the Aggregation Program?

Call Dynegy toll free at 888-682-2170. Customer Care Representatives are available Monday – Friday, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm ET. During all other hours please leave a message for a return call. Or you can email

DynegyCustomerService@Dynegy.com.

# Dynegy Energy Services (East), LLC Residential and Small Commercial Electric Supply Agreement Terms and Conditions

- 1. Purchase of Electricity Dynegy Energy Services (East), LLC (DES) agrees to sell, and you (Customer) agree to buy, all retail electricity at the price and on the terms and conditions specified in this Agreement. Customer's electric utility remains responsible for the delivery of electricity to the Customer.
- 2. Residential or Small Commercial Service Customer acknowledges this Agreement is for electricity for residential or small commercial use only.
- 3. Price and Initial Term The price for electricity (Price) will be \$0.05090 per kWh through your May 2023 meter read date (Initial Term). Electricity service under this Agreement will begin with the next available meter read date after DES and Customer's electric utility process Customer's enrollment. In addition to delivering electricity, Customer's electric utility will continue to read Customer's meter, bill the Customer and respond to any outages. If Customer switches back to Customer's electric utility for any reason, Customer may or may not be served under the same rates, terms, and conditions that apply to other customers served by the electric utility. The Price includes broker fees, but does not include any applicable taxes, fees or charges related to distribution service from the Customer's electric utility. If DES wishes to lower the Price due to a change in market conditions, DES may do so without Customer's consent provided there are no other changes to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- 4. Length of Contract As a part of your community's program, your service from DES will commence with your next available meter reading after processing of enrollment by your electric utility, and will continue for the term as specified in the opt-out notification, ending on your meter read for the last month of service.
- 5. Billing and Payment The charges for electricity provided by DES will appear on Customer's monthly bill from Customer's electric utility, and is due and payable to Customer's electric utility on the same day the electric utility's bill is due. Customer will incur additional service and delivery charges from the Customer's electric utility. Customer should continue to follow any bill payment procedures between Customer and Customer's electric utility. Customer agrees to accept the measurements as determined by Customer's electric utility for purposes of accounting for the amount of electricity provided by DES under this Agreement. Though DES does not offer budget billing for the electricity provided, the customer may contact the Customer's electric utility to enroll in the utility budget billing program, if applicable. Customer has the right to request from DES, twice within a twelve-month period without charge, up to twenty-four months of the Customer's payment history. The failure to pay electric utility charges may result in Customer being disconnected from service in accordance with the Customer's electric utility tariff.
- 6. Customer Cancellation or Termination of the Agreement Customer's electric utility will send Customer a notice confirming the switch to DES for electricity. CUSTOMER MAY CANCEL THIS AGREEMENT WITHOUT PENALTY WITHIN SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS OF THE POSTMARK ON THE ELECTRIC UTILITY'S CONFIRMATION NOTICE OF THE SWITCH TO DES BY CONTACTING CUSTOMER'S ELECTRIC UTILITY BY TELEPHONE OR IN WRITING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CANCELLATION INSTRUCTIONS ON THAT NOTICE. After the seven-day cancellation period, Customer must contact DES to terminate this Agreement. There is no fee for early termination during any renewal term. Customer may terminate this Agreement without penalty if Customer moves outside of DES's service area or into an area where DES charges a different price for electricity.
- 7. DES Termination of the Agreement DES may terminate this Agreement by giving Customer written notice of at least 14 calendar days if the Customer fails to make any payments under this Agreement or fails to meet any agreed-upon payment arrangements. DES may also terminate this Agreement by giving Customer written notice if any Force Majeure Event (See Section 13 of this Agreement), as defined below, physically prevents or legally prohibits DES from performing under the terms of this Agreement. Upon termination of this Agreement, Customer will return to Customer's electric utility for electricity unless Customer has selected another Competitive Retail Electric Service (CRES) provider. The effective date of any termination by Customer or DES will be the next available meter read date after expiration of any required notice period and processing by the electric utility and DES of the return of the Customer to the electric utility. Upon termination by any party for any reason, Customer will remain responsible for all charges for electricity through the date of termination.
- **8. Environmental Disclosure** This Agreement incorporates the information provided to Customer or made available to Customer at DES's website (DynegyOhio.com) regarding the approximate generation resource mix and environmental characteristics of electricity supply.
- **9. Assignment** DES may assign, subcontract or delegate all or any part of DES's rights and/or obligations under this Agreement without consent from Customer. Customer shall not assign its rights and/or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of DES.
- 10. Customer Information Customer authorizes DES to obtain any information from Customer's electric utility necessary for DES to perform this Agreement, including Customer's account name, account number, billing address, service address, telephone number, standard offer service type, meter readings, when charges hereunder are included on the electric utility's bill, and Customer's billing and payment information from Customer's electric utility. DES is prohibited from disclosing Customer's social security number and/or account number(s) without Customer's consent except for DES's own collections and credit reporting, participation in programs funded by the universal service fund pursuant to section 4928.52 of the Revised Code, or assigning a customer contract to another CRES provider.
- 11. Dispute Resolution If Customer has a billing or other dispute involving this Agreement, Customer may contact DES at the telephone number, e-mail address or mailing address listed below. If your

# Dynegy Energy Services (East), LLC Residential and Small Commercial Electric Supply Agreement Terms and Conditions

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 <a href="http://www.puco.ohio.gov">http://www.puco.ohio.gov</a>. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service). The Ohio consumers' counsel (OCC) represents residential utility customers in matters before the PUCO. The OCC can be contacted at 1-877-742-5622 (toll free) from eight a.m. to five p.m. weekdays, or at <a href="http://www.pickocc.org">http://www.pickocc.org</a>.

- 12. Limitation of Liability Customer agrees that neither DES nor any of its employees, affiliates, agents, or subcontractors (collectively, DES Parties) will be liable for any damages or claims for matters within the control of Customer's electric utility or the regional transmission organization controlled electricity grid. The DES Parties will not be responsible for any failure to commence or terminate power and energy service on the date specified herein due to any failure or delay in enrolling Customer with Customer's electric utility. The DES Parties' liability will be limited to direct actual damages only. In no event will the DES Parties be liable for any punitive, incidental, consequential, exemplary, indirect, attorney's fees, third-party claims or other damages whether based on contract, warranty, tort, negligence, strict liability or otherwise, or for lost profits arising from any breach or nonperformance of this Agreement.
- 13. Force Majeure If a Party is prevented by Force Majeure from carrying out, in whole or part, its obligations under this Agreement (the "Claiming Party") and gives notice and details of to the other Party as soon as practicable, then the Claiming Party shall be excused from the performance of its obligations under this Agreement (other than the obligation to make payments then due or becoming due with respect to performance prior to the Force Majeure). The Claiming Party shall remedy the Force Majeure with all reasonable dispatch. During the period excused by Force Majeure, the non-Claiming Party shall not be required to perform its obligations under this Agreement. "Force Majeure" shall mean an event or circumstance which prevents the Claiming Party from performing its obligations or causes delay in the Claiming Party's performance under this Agreement, which event or circumstance was not anticipated as of the date this Agreement was agreed to, which is not within the reasonable control of, or the result of the negligence of, the Claiming Party, and which, by the exercise of due diligence or use of good utility practice, as defined in the applicable transmission tariff, the Claiming Party is unable to overcome or avoid or cause to be avoided, such as, but not limited to, acts of God; fire: flood; earthquake; war; riots; strikes, walkouts, lockouts and other labor disputes that affect Customer or DES. Force Majeure shall not be based on 1) Customer's inability to economically use the electricity purchased hereunder; or 2) Supplier's ability to sell the electricity at a price greater than the price under this Agreement.
- 14. REGULATORY OUT Changes to laws, regulations, rules, decisions, entries, findings, or orders governing the generation, transmission, or sale of electricity may be made by different entities, including state agencies and regulatory bodies such as the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO), federal agencies and regulatory bodies such as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and Regional Transmission Organizations (RTO) that operate multi-state regional electric transmission systems such as PJM Interconnection LLC (PJM), the RTO that operates the regional electric transmission system in a multistate region that includes Ohio. Such changes may include, without limitation, new, revised, altered, amended, or reinterpreted laws, regulations, rules, decisions, entries, findings, or orders relating to (i) the generation of electricity, (ii) the availability and reliability of electricity supply resources (including, without limitation, capacity), (iii) the reliability of the electricity grid, (iv) the transmission or delivery of electricity, and (v) the sale or marketing of wholesale and retail electricity (collectively, Regulatory Events). DES has no control over Regulatory Events. If any Regulatory Event makes this Agreement uneconomic or unprofitable for DES, Customer agrees that DES may propose new contract terms to Customer, including, without limitation, an increased price for the electricity delivered by DES under this Agreement. If DES proposes new contract terms in accordance with this clause, DES will provide written notice to the Customer that identifies (1) the Regulatory Event(s) at issue, (2) the new contract terms proposed by DES, and (3) when the new contract terms will take effect following Customer's acceptance. Customer will have thirty (30) days from the date of the written notice to affirmatively accept or reject the new contract terms. If Customer does not affirmatively accept the new contract terms within thirty (30) days of the written notice, DES may in its sole discretion elect to terminate this Agreement without penalty on the next available meter read date after the expiration of the thirty-day notice period and processing by the electric utility and DES, after which Customer will return to Customer's electric utility or another CRES provider of Customer's choosing for electricity; alternatively. DES may, in its sole discretion, elect to continue supplying electricity to Customer under the original terms of this Agreement.

#### **Contact Information**

In the event of an emergency involving Customer's electric service (for example, an outage or downed power lines) Customer should call the emergency line for Customer's electric utility. In all other situations, Customer may contact DES toll free at 888-682-2170. Customer Care Representatives are available Monday – Friday, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm ET. During all other hours please leave a message for a return call. Customer may also contact DES by email at <a href="DynegyCustomerService@dynegy.com">DynegyCustomerService@dynegy.com</a>, or by US Mail at DYNEGY, LLC, Attn: Customer Care, PO Box 650764. Customer may also visit Dynegy's website at <a href="https://www.dynegy.com/electric-supplier">https://www.dynegy.com/electric-supplier</a>.

# VILLAGE OF NORTH BEND, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO Electric Aggregation Program

# **EXHIBIT B-2 "OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE PLAN"**

Plan of Operation and Governance –3 Pages

# PLAN OF OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE Electric Governmental Aggregation

Introduction. In November 2012 a majority of the voters in North Bend, Ohio, in the County of Hamilton, approved a referendum that authorized the NorthBend (the "Village") to pursue Governmental Aggregation. After the Village held two public hearings on the matter, the Village approved this Plan of Operation and Governance as prescribed by Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Village has developed this Plan of Operation and Governance ("Plan of Operation") in accordance with the governmental aggregation provisions in Sections 4901:1-21-16 Ohio Administrative Code. Once certified as a Governmental Aggregator, the Village will be authorized to combine multiple retail electric customer loads within its geographic boundaries (the "Aggregation") for the purpose of facilitating the purchase of electric supply Ohio's competitive retail electric market.

Governmental Aggregation Services. The Village, as a Governmental Aggregator, will serve as purchasing agent for the Aggregation. As purchasing agent, the Governmental Aggregator shall (I) select a Competitive Retail Electric Service Provider ("Provider") to supply the Aggregation, (II) negotiate the terms of supply between the Provider and each Aggregation participant, and (III) oversee the enrollment procedures administered by the Provider.

The Contract. The supply contract negotiated by the Governmental Aggregator for the Aggregation (the "Contract") shall be for firm, full-requirements supply. Each Aggregation participant will be individually bound to the Provider by the terms of the Contract, and will be solely responsible for payment and performance. The electric supply charges for Aggregation are included in the Contract that will be negotiated by the Governmental Aggregator. The electric supply charges will take the form of either a fixed price, all electric supply charges will be fully and prominently disclosed in consumer enrollment materials (such as the Opt-out Notice), available on the Provider's website, and available by calling the Provider's toil free customer service telephone number. The surcharge authorized under Section 4928:20(1) will not be charged.

Eligibility, Opt-out Disclosures, and Pooling Accounts. Section 490:1-21-06 of the Ohio Administrative Code requires Duke Energy Ohio, the local electric distribution utility (the "Utility,) to - provide the Governmental Aggregator with an account list of eligible customers, including the names, service and mailing addresses, load profile reference category, meter read schedule and historical consumption data for all eligible customers residing within the Governmental Aggregator's boundaries. . The following customers are not eligible: customers already under contract with a certified electric services company; customers that have a special contract with the Utility; customers that are not located within the Governmental Aggregator's boundaries; customers on the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PiPP) or any similar successor program; customers that have past due amounts owing to the Utility and have no existing plan to discharge such amounts; and mercantile customers. In addition, the Village intends to include in the Aggregation only those residential and non-mercantile customers with a demand of less than 100 KW and a load profile consistent with ordinary residential and small commercial use. Using this list of eligible accounts, the Provider, with the assistance of the Governmental Aggregator, will review the list to verify that the eligible accounts are located within the geographic boundaries of the Village and that no area within the Village boundaries has not been inadvertently omitted from the list. The Provider will also remove the eligible list, those customers who appear on the "do not aggregate" list as stated under division (c) of Section 4928.21 of the Revised Code. Finally the Provider will reduce the list by removing those accounts in rate classes that Indicate (i) a higher demand than targeted for the Aggregation or (ii) a usage profile that is not consistent with ordinary residential and small commercial use.

Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the list from the Utility, the Provider, with assistance from the Governmental Aggregator, will prepare and mail an "Opt-out Notice" to each account that remains on the eligible list after the list has been reduced as noted above. The Opt-out Notice will inform the eligible account holder that the Governmental Aggregator has formed an automatic (or "Opt-out") aggregation, provide the price for the electric supply to the Aggregation and other terms and conditions of service, and explain how the account holder can decline participation in the Aggregation.

As required by 4901:1-28-04 of the Ohio Administrative Code, the Opt-out Notice will indicate that the account holder has 21 days to affirmatively respond by telephoning a toll-free number or returning a postcard to the provider that is included in the Opt-out Notice.

The Provider will receive all Opt-out requests and any Opt-out Notices that were undeliverable by mail, and will remove those accounts from the eligible account list. Upon completion of the 21 day Opt-out period, the Provider will notify the Utility of the remaining accounts that will form the Aggregation and through an electronic data interchange transaction, enroll the Aggregation. Upon enrollment, each participant will receive an enrollment notice from the Utility that will indicate that the enrollee may rescind its participation in the Aggregation by contacting the Utility within seven (7) business days.

In addition to the initial 21-day Opt-out period, each participant will be provided an opportunity to opt-out every three years without paying an early termination fee.

Billing Aggregation participants will receive a single, monthly bill from the Utility, which will include charges from the Provider for its electric supply, as well as the Utility distribution charges. Aggregation participants will be billed according to their Utility billing cycle.

<u>Credit, Collections and Deposits.</u> The Utility's credit and collection policy and policies regarding deposits will apply to the Aggregation participants and shall be administered by the Utility. Neither the Governmental Aggregator, nor the Provider will implement additional policies with respect to credit, deposits and collections.

Concerns and Complaints. Aggregation participants will have multiple means of communicating concerns and reporting complaints. As a general rule, concerns regarding service reliability and billing should be directed to the Utility. The Utility will continue to read meters, handle billing, and generally have the most information about the physical service to a location or account. Questions regarding the administration of the Aggregation should be directed to the Provider. The Provider's customer service center shall be available by telephone 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Any unresolved disputes should be directed to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and/or the Ohio Consumers Counsel. As a convenience, below is a list of helpful toil-free telephone numbers.

Natural of Complaint	Contact	Disance Mount	
Outages/Emergencles	Utility	Phone Number	
Service turn on/off	Utility	1-800-544-6900	
Billing Disputes		1-800-544-6900	
Price/Joining/Leaving Program	Utility	1-800-544-6900	
Program Beaulata - O	Provider Customer Service	1-877-331-3045	
rogram Regulatory Questions	Provider Customer Service	1-877-331-3045	
Inresolved Disputes	Public Utilities Commission	1-800-685-7826	
Unresolved Disputes	Ohio Consumers Council	1-877-742-5622	

The Provider will attempt to resolve all customer complaints in a timely and good faith manner. The Provider shall investigate and provide a status report to the customer when the complaint is made directly to them and/or the Governmental Aggregator within three (3) business days following Provider's receipt of the complaint. In the case of a Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") complaint, the Provider will investigate and provide a status report to the customer and PUCO staff within three (3) business days following the Provider's receipt of the complaint, or such other period of time as may be required by the PUCO. If an investigation into a complaint received from the customer or a complaint referred by the PUCO is not completed within ten (10) business days, then a status report will be given to the customer, and, if applicable, the PUCO. These status reports will be given every three (3) business days until the investigation is complete, unless the action that must be taken takes longer than three (3) business days and the customer has been notified. Final results of a PUCO-referred complaint will be provided to the PUCO either orally (telephone) or in writing (e-mail, written correspondence), no more than three (3) business days after the investigation is completed. The final results will be provided in writing to the customer no later than three (3) business days after the investigation is completed. Customers retain the right to contact the PUCO regarding complaints and disputes. All customers have the right to contact the PUCO by writing to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, ATTN, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3793; by fax to (614) 752-8351; through their website at www.puc.state.oh.us or by calling toll free (800) 686-7826 (VOICE) or (800) 686-1570 (ITY- TOD). Records of customer complaints will be retained for two (2) years after the occurrence of the complaint. A copy of the complaint record will be provided to the PUCO within three (3) business days, if requested.

Moving within the Village. An aggregation participant who moves from one location to another within the Village boundaries and retains the same account number will remain an Aggregation participant and will receive the same price it would have received if: its location had not moved.

An aggregation participant who moves from one location to another within the Village boundaries and is assigned a new account number may enroll its new account in the Aggregation and receive the same price it would have received if its location had not moved, provided the new account is eligible for Aggregation. An aggregation participant who moves within the Village and receives a new account number may be dropped from the Aggregation by the Utility, but it will not be charged an early termination fee from the Provider. If a participant is dropped from the Aggregation due to a move within the Village, the participant must contact the Provider to be re-enrolled within 60 days of being dropped.

Moving outside of the Village. An aggregation participant who moves out of the Village boundaries will no longer be eligible to participate in the Aggregation, but it will not be charged an early termination fee by the Provider.

Enrolling after the Opt-out Period. Residential and small business accounts located within the Village's boundaries that were initially eligible to join the Aggregation, but chose to Opt-out of the Aggregation, or otherwise weren't included in the Aggregation, may join the Aggregation after the expiration of the initial Opt-out Period by contacting the Provider. The rate for those joining the Aggregation after the expiration of the Opt-out Period may be different from the rate negotiated for the Aggregation by the Governmental Aggregator.

If the Provider is able to offer to newly eligible customers the same price that is provided to the current Aggregation participants, the Provider may refresh the Aggregation by providing those who move in to the Village the opportunity to be included automatically, rather than waiting until the next pricing term of the Contract. The process for refreshing the Aggregation with new enrollments would follow the process noted above for determining eligibility, providing Opt-out Notices, and pooling the accounts. (Current Aggregation participants and those who previously declined participation would not receive the Opt-out Notice intended only for newly eligible customers.)

# VILLAGE OF NORTH BEND, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO Electric Aggregation Program

EXHIBIT B—4 "EXPERIENCE AND PLANS"

1 Page

#### EXHIBIT B-4 "EXPERIENCE AND PLANS"

Due to the complexity of Governmental Aggregation, the Governmental Aggregator applicant has entered into a program agreement with Energy Alliances, Inc. to assist them in implementing and maintaining their Natural Gas Governmental Aggregation Program.

Founded in 1985, Energy Alliances, Inc. is an independent energy broker and consulting company that provides comprehensive energy procurement for commercial, governmental, small business and residential customers throughout the mid-West.

As a PUCO certified Retail Natural Gas Broker/Aggregator (Certificate Number 14-350G(4)) and a Competitive Retail Electric Service Provider (Certificate Number 14-805E(4)) Energy Alliances has over 15 years of experience in leading communities through the entire governmental aggregation process. They currently manage more than sixty (60) electric and gas governmental aggregation and/or endorsement programs in the State of Ohio.

A detailed summary of the contract incudes, but is not limited to providing the following services:

- Assist with the preparation of resolutions, public notices, and customer communications
- Assist with the preparation of the Plan of Operation and Governance
- Assist with the preparation of the required legal notices and public meetings to review and approve the Plan of Operation and Governance
- Assist with the preparation and submission of the Certification Application for Governmental Aggregators and Re-certification Applications, as well as the annual and/or quarterly reporting requirements
- Evaluate existing energy costs and rates, provide market expertise, and assist the communities with the selection of their electric/gas supply pricing strategy
- Assist with the preparation of all notifications required to be sent to program participants
- Assist the communities with the day-to-day operation of their programs (i.e. problem resolution, PUCO compliance, supplier liaison, etc.)
- Provide other services necessary for the communities to comply with provisions of Sections
   4929 and 4928 and Chapter 4901 of the Ohio Revised Code



Competitive Retail Electric Service (CRES)
Governmental Aggregator Application

Please complete all information. Identify all attachments with a label and title (example: Exhibit B-2 Operation and governance plan). For paper filing, you can mail the original and three complete copies to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Docketing Division, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

# A. Application Information

A-1. Applicant's legal name and contact information.						
Provide the name and contact information of the business entity.						
Legal Name:	Village of North Bend, Ohio					
Street Address:	21 Taylor Avenue					
City:	North Bend	State: OH	<sub>Zip:</sub> 45052			
Telephone:	513-941-0610	Website: www.northb	endohio.org			
A-2. Contact person for regulatory matters.						
Name:	Rich Surace					
Street Address:	8469 Blue Ash Rd., Suite 1					
City:	Cincinnati	State: OH	<sub>Zip:</sub> 45236			
Telephone:	513-745-1424	Email: rsurace@ener	gyalliances.com			
A-3. Contact person for PUCO Staff use in investigating consumer complaints.						
Name:	Rich Surace					
Street Address:	8469 Blue Ash Rd., Suite 1					
City:	Cincinnati	State: OH	<sub>Zip:</sub> 45236			
Telephone:	513-745-1424	Email: rsurace@ener				
A-4. Applicant's address and toll-free number for customer service and complaints.						
Street Address:	8469 Blue Ash Rd., Suite 1					
City:	Cincinnati	State: OH	<sub>Zip:</sub> 45236			
Toll-free Telephone:	800-735-0359	Email: rsurace@ener	gyalliances.com			

# B. Managerial Capability

Provide a response or attachment for each of the sections below.

# **B-1.** Authorizing Ordinance.

Provide a copy of the adopted ordinance or resolution authorizing the formation of a governmental aggregation program pursuant to Sections  $\underline{4928.20(A)}$ ,  $\underline{4929.26}$ , and/or  $\underline{4929.27}$  of the Ohio Revised Code.

### B-2. Operation and governance plan.

Provide a copy of the applicant's plan for operation and governance of its aggregation program adopted pursuant to Section  $\underline{4928.20(C)}$ ,  $\underline{4929.26(C)}$ , and/or  $\underline{4929.27(B)}$  of the Ohio Revised Code and in accordance with  $\underline{4901:1-21-16}$  and/or  $\underline{4901:1-28-03}$  of the Ohio Administrative Code.

#### B-3. Opt-out disclosure notice.

Provide a draft copy of the opt-out notice that provides or offers automatic aggregation services in accordance with Sections  $\underline{4928.20(D)}$  or  $\underline{4929.26(D)}$  of the Ohio Revised Code and in accordance with  $\underline{4901:1-21-17}$  and/or  $\underline{4901:1-28-04}$  of the Ohio Administrative Code. The applicant must file the finalized opt-out notice in the certification case docket no more than 30 days and not less than ten days prior to public dissemination.

#### B-4. Experience and plans.

Describe in detail the applicant's experience and plan for providing aggregation services, including contracting with consultants, broker/aggregators, retail natural gas suppliers and/or retail generation providers, providing billing statements, responding to customer inquiries and complaints, and complying with all applicable provisions of Commission rules adopted pursuant to Section 4929.22 and/or 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.

As authorized representative for the above company/organization, I certify that all the information contained in this application is true, accurate and complete. I also understand that failure to report completely and accurately may result in penalties or other legal actions.

Signature

Title

# Competitive Retail Electric Service Affidavit

County of	Hamiltor	1
State of C		:

Journal 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.
- 2. 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 4905.10(A), 4911.18(A), and 4928.06(F), Ohio Revised Code.
- 3. The applicant will timely pay any assessment made pursuant to Sections 4905.10, 4911.18, and 4928.06(F), Ohio Revised Code.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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 4928.09, 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.
- 10. 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.

<ol> <li>The facts set forth above are true and accur that he/she expects said applicant to be able</li> </ol>	rate to the best of his/her knowledge, information, and belief and e to prove the same at any hearing hereof.
13. Affiant further sayeth naught.	WIND TO THE PARTY OF THE PARTY
Signature of Affiant & Title	STEVEN G. SCHNELL Notary Public, State of Ohio My Commission Expires 04-15-2023
Sworn and subscribed before me this	lay of February 2021
Signature of official administering oath	Steven Schwell / Peschal Barker Print Name and Title
	My commission expires on $04/15/2023$

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on** 

2/23/2021 1:54:11 PM

in

Case No(s). 13-0716-EL-GAG

Summary: In the Matter of the Application of Village of North Bend (Hamilton County)