

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

**DAVID SCHIFER**

)

)

**Complainant,**

)

)

**Case No. 22-0435-EL-CSS**

**v.**

)

)

**OHIO EDISON COMPANY,**

)

)

**Respondent.**

)

)

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CORY LAWSON ON BEHALF OF  
OHIO EDISON COMPANY**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Q. PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF.**

A. My name is Cory Lawson, and I am employed with Ohio Edison Company (“Ohio Edison” or the “Company”) as a Distribution Tech in the New Business Engineering department. My business address is 1040 South Prospect Street, Marion, Ohio 43302.

**Q. WHAT DO YOU DO AS A DISTRIBUTION TECH?**

A. As a Distribution Tech, I have a variety of responsibilities. I work closely with engineers and line supervisors to plan, design, and execute all work necessary to establish new electric service and enhance existing service for Ohio Edison customers. My specific responsibilities often include installing new services, relocating new facilities, and miscellaneous services related to designing new service connections.

**Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR BACKGROUND AND WORK EXPERIENCE?**

A. I was hired by Ohio Edison in 2012 as a Meter Reader. I then switched roles to Assistant Distribution Tech and after a few years I was promoted to Distribution Tech, which is the role I have held for the past eight (8) years.

**Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE COMMISSION?**

A. No, I have not.

**Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THE PRESENT CASE?**

A. My testimony addresses several aspects of the Complaint pertaining to the installation of new electric service provided by Ohio Edison to David Schifer (“Mr. Schifer” or the “Customer”) at 1013 State Route 294, Bucyrus, Ohio 44820 (the “Property”). Specifically, my testimony addresses the circumstances surrounding the installation of new service and

1 the communication between Ohio Edison and Mr. Schifer during this period prior to the  
2 start of service on December 9, 2021.

3 **Q. WHAT DID YOU DO TO PREPARE FOR YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS**  
4 **PROCEEDING?**

5 A. I reviewed the Complaint submitted by Mr. Schifer. I also reviewed business records  
6 related to this case maintained and preserved within FirstEnergy's systems and my own  
7 personal email and records. These records, all of which were kept in the course of regularly  
8 conducted business activity, include emails, a recorded telephone call, customer contact  
9 notes, and account summary. It is the regular practice of FirstEnergy and Ohio Edison to  
10 make and preserve these business records, and I rely upon such documents in accordance  
11 with my duties at Ohio Edison. I also personally worked on this new service installation  
12 and spoke with Mr. Schifer and his electrician, Tyler Hall, on several occasions.

13 **DAVID SCHIFER'S COMPLAINT**

14 **Q. YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU REVIEWED THE COMPLAINT IN THIS**  
15 **MATTER. WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF MR. SCHIFER'S**  
16 **COMPLAINT?**

17 A. Mr. Schifer claims that during the time he was seeking new service installation at the  
18 Property, he spoke with myself and other Ohio Edison employees regarding the process of  
19 new service installation. Mr. Schifer alleges that he was initially told he could not place  
20 his customer equipment on the pole, nor could he take control of the Ohio Edison pole  
21 located on his property. Mr. Schifer alleges that after he was provided the customer service  
22 guide specifications for a customer riser, underground meter base, and meter pedestal and

1 ordered material to meet the specifications, Ohio Edison reversed its position and informed  
2 he could take ownership of the pole.

3 **Q. COULD YOU DESCRIBE THE BASIC PROCESS FOR INSTALLING NEW**  
4 **SERVICE AT A PROPERTY LIKE MR. SCHIFER'S?**

5 A. Yes. As part of the new service installation process, a person wishing to have new service  
6 installation is sent the Customer Guide for Electric Service, which includes the  
7 specifications necessary for the customer equipment required for new service. A customer  
8 must follow the specifications provided and is not permitted to install their equipment on  
9 the Ohio Edison pole directly.

10 **Q. WAS MR. SCHIFER PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION?**

11 A. Yes. After receiving Mr. Schifer's new service request, I spoke with Mr. Schifer on the  
12 phone on October 21, 2021, and I informed Mr. Schifer that he could not place customer  
13 equipment on the Ohio Edison pole. The next day I emailed Mr. Schifer the specifications  
14 necessary for a customer riser, underground meter base, and meter pedestal. *See* October  
15 22, 2021 email, **attached hereto as Exhibit A.**

16 **Q. DURING THIS OCTOBER CALL DID MR. SCHIFER EVER REQUEST TO**  
17 **TAKE OWNERSHIP OF THE OHIO EDISON POLE?**

18 A. No.

19 **Q. DID YOU EVER SPEAK WITH MR. SCHIFER'S ELECTRICIAN ABOUT MR.**  
20 **SCHIFER TAKING OWNERSHIP OF THE OHIO EDISON POLE?**

21 A. No. I only spoke with Mr. Schifer's electrician regarding the process for new service  
22 installation and the specifications necessary for a customer riser, underground meter base,  
23 and meter pedestal.

1 **Q. AT ANY POINT IN TIME DID YOU SPEAK WITH MR. SCHIFER ABOUT HIM**  
2 **TAKING OWNERSHIP OF THE OHIO EDISON POLE?**

3 A. Yes. After speaking with Mr. Schifer and his electrician on several occasions regarding  
4 the necessary equipment and inspections Mr. Schifer needed for new service installation, I  
5 took it upon myself to propose the abandonment of Ohio Edison's pole to Mr. Schifer.

6 **Q. WHEN DID YOU PROPOSE TO ABANDON THE OHIO EDISON POLE AND**  
7 **ALLOW MR. SCHIFER TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF THE POLE?**

8 A. After speaking with Mr. Schifer on the telephone in late November 2021 regarding him  
9 taking ownership of the Ohio Edison pole, I emailed Mr. Schifer on November 22, 2021  
10 the standard pole abandonment agreement used by Ohio Edison. *See* November 22, 2021  
11 email, **attached hereto as Exhibit B.**

12 **Q. DID MR. SCHIFER AGREE TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF THE POLE?**

13 A. No. Mr. Schifer never responded to my November 22, 2021 email.

14 **Q. IN YOUR OPINION, DID OHIO EDISON ACT REASONABLY IN RESPONDING**  
15 **TO MR. SCHIFER'S REQUEST FOR NEW SERVICE INSTALLATION?**

16 A. Yes. Ohio Edison responded to Mr. Schifer's request for new service installation promptly  
17 and provided him with the information and specifications necessary to complete  
18 installation of his new service. Further, Ohio Edison acted reasonably in proposing to  
19 abandon its pole to Mr. Schifer.

20 **CONCLUSION**

21 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

22 A. Yes, however, I reserve my right to supplement my testimony.

## EXHIBIT A

**From:** Lawson, Cory

**Sent:** Friday, October 22, 2021 9:22 AM

**To:** [daveschifer@gmail.com](mailto:daveschifer@gmail.com)

**Subject:** 1013 st rt 294

Dave,

Here are the specs and information you will need. Please let me know if you have any other questions. Remember you will need enough cable, conduit, straps, weather head, AND stand off brackets on site. We will need to climb this pole to install the conduit. Also a state certified electrician will need to send an inspection in if there is no county inspection. @ [OH\\_SMI@Firstenergycorp.com](mailto:OH_SMI@Firstenergycorp.com)  
For scheduling please call Katie at 740-382-7103

Thanks,

Cory Lawson

Office 740-382-7164



## **EMAIL ATTACHMENT 1**





#### FOR TEMP SERVICE PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING DONE

1. Have your notification# or address
2. Have electrician or builder build temp pole and supply meter base and breaker
3. Have temp pole inspected by the county, if no county inspection Ohio Edison requires a state certified licensed electrician to sign off on work. Include notification#
4. Fax or email inspections to our Akron office to be applied to notification# FAX# 877-611-9111 or EMAIL to [OH\\_SMI@Firstenergycorp.com](mailto:OH_SMI@Firstenergycorp.com) (THERE IS AN UNDERSCORE BETWEEN THE OH AND S)
5. Once inspection has been sent in you will contact the SCHEDULER for SCHEDULING. Katie 740-382-7103. Cory Lawson does not control any part of the schedule and cannot help scheduling issues.

#### FOR PERMANENT SERVICE PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING

##### FOR UNDERGROUND SERVICE

1. Have your notification#
2. Homeowner is responsible for ALL trenching this includes OE cable if any, OE BOX PAD opening for transformer and customer underground service cable.
3. Electrician will need to install service line and make connection in the meter base.
4. If customer service is to be installed onto OE pole the customer supplies ALL material. This includes cable, conduit, straps for conduit, and weather head. IF the pole can not be reached by the road or driveway the customer will need to supply standoff brackets.
5. Once the meter base has been inspected by the county, or if no county inspection a state certified licensed electrician, Send the inspection to the info above in #4. Include notification#
6. Once you know what size cable you are using please contact me at 740-382-7164. Also, if you are installing conduit on pole, give conduit size as well.
7. Once inspection has been sent in you will contact the SCHEDULER for SCHEDULING Katie at 740-382-7103. Cory Lawson does not control any part of the schedule and cannot help scheduling issues.

##### FOR OVERHEAD SERVICE

1. Have notification# or address
2. Electrician installs and wires meter base
3. Once the meter base has been inspected by the county, or if no county inspection a state certified licensed electrician, Send the inspection to the info above in #4. Include notification#
4. Once inspection has been sent in you will contact the SCHEDULER for SCHEDULING Katie at 740-382-7103. Cory Lawson does not control any part of the schedule and cannot help scheduling issues.

ALL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ONLINE

[www.firstenergycorp.com](http://www.firstenergycorp.com) scroll down and look for Customer Guide for Electric Service. Next page Look for Ohio under Customer Guide for Electrical Service.

## **EMAIL ATTACHMENT 2**

# DANGER

HIGH VOLTAGE ABOVE  
DO NOT CLIMB OR EXTEND  
CONDUIT/WIRES ABOVE 10  
FEET FROM GROUNDLINE  
SEE NOTES 2 & 5

CUSTOMER  
SUPPLIES ALL  
MATERIAL.

ENOUGH CABLE,  
CONDUIT, STRAPS,  
AND A WEATHER  
HEAD FOR OE TO  
INSTALL ON THE  
POLE.

IF ALL THE  
MATERIAL IS NOT  
ON SITE, WE WILL  
LEAVE AND COME  
BACK AT A LATER  
DATE.

## Notes:

1. For customer/Company responsibilities, see Exhibit 1.
2. **CAUTION:** Only qualified personnel are permitted to install electrical equipment in the vicinity of energized electrical lines as described in OSHA 1910 Subpart R. & S.
3. Company shall determine the location/position of vertical risers on the pole based on traffic flow and location of CATV, or Telephone Co. attachments.
4. All service installations shall meet NEC, state, and local codes and regulations.
5. Customer shall contact the Company before installing any facilities on the Company-owned pole. Customer shall supply all of the required electrical-grade conduit, brackets/clamps, weatherhead, and cable.

Customer shall supply a continuous length of cable to reach the overhead power source plus an additional five (5) feet required for drip loop and termination. The cable shall be coiled up and temporarily attached on the pole ten (10) feet above ground. The Company will then complete the installation above 10 feet. Customer shall coordinate the installation with the Company.

6. Conduit size is limited to 3" or 4" dia. conduit. For conduit diameter greater than 4", see Exhibit 10A.

Secondary or neutral

CATV or communication cable  
(if present)

Customer shall supply a sufficient length (consult the Company) of continuous cable that will reach the secondary/neutral position plus an additional 5 feet to allow for connection by Company to overhead power source. This conductor shall be coiled and temporarily attached to pole ten (10) feet above ground. See Note 5.

DO NOT INSTALL THE FIRST  
10 FEET.

Customer shall use metal clamps or straps and secure with drive point lags.

NEC approved ground clamp and bonding jumpers are required when conduit is metallic.

Customer supplied and installed warning ribbon 12" above customer service lateral per NEC.

See Note 3

24 inches minimum cover (See Exhibit 24).

Allow slack in cable for settling, if direct buried.

Customer-owned underground cable.

Bushing PER NEC 300.5(H).

Customer shall install 90°-30° radius Schedule 80 PVC elbow (See Exhibit 24). Conduit elbow may have weep holes when required for water drainage.

## DIRECT ATTACHMENT OF CUSTOMER-OWNED UNDERGROUND SECONDARY SERVICE LATERAL(S) ON OHIO OPERATING COMPANY'S POLES

**FirstEnergy**

Service Guide

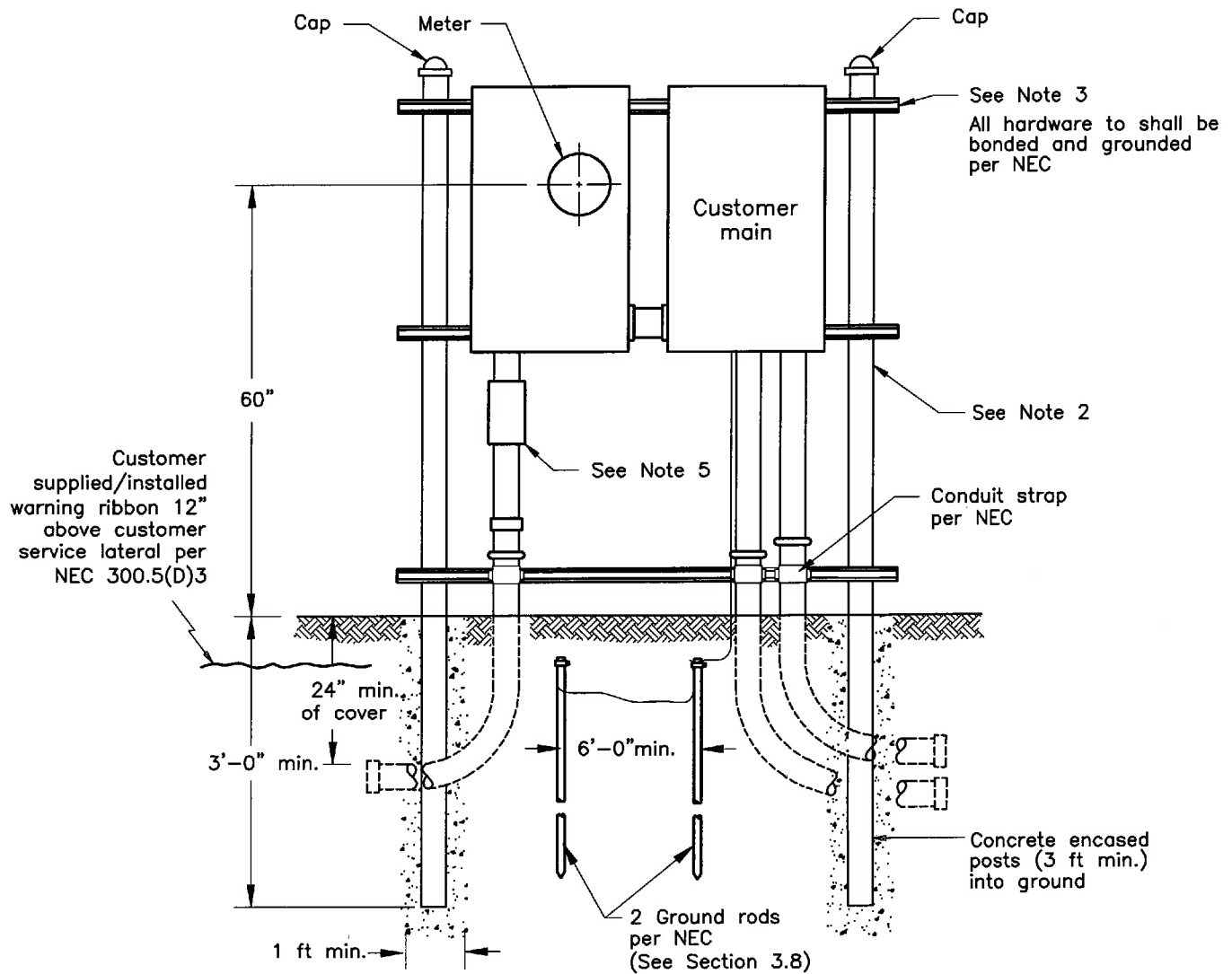
REV.

3

DATE

EXHIBIT 9

## **EMAIL ATTACHMENT 3**



### Notes:

1. For customer/Company responsibilities, see Exhibit 1.
2. Support post (customer-owned) – use two-3" min. galvanized rigid metal conduit (RMC) – steel (min. 0.205" thick) capped and concrete encased in ground.
3. Mounting hardware – three 12 gauge 1-5/8" x 1-5/8" continuous slot hot dipped galvanized channel (e.g., unistrut) complete with 1-1/4" x 5/16" dia. 13 thd. spring nut (2 per channel), 5/16" hex nut, and lock washer securely mounted to support posts.
4. Supply-side conduit shall be rigid galvanized or IMC steel, or Schedule 80 PVC (electrical grade).
5. The customer should provide ground movement protection per NEC 300.5 (J) to prevent damage due to settling.
6. This Exhibit can also be used for stand-alone, self-contained metering.

## TYPICAL UNDERGROUND SERVICE STAND-ALONE METERING/CENTRAL DISTRIBUTION INSTALLATION

**FirstEnergy.**

Service Guide

REV.

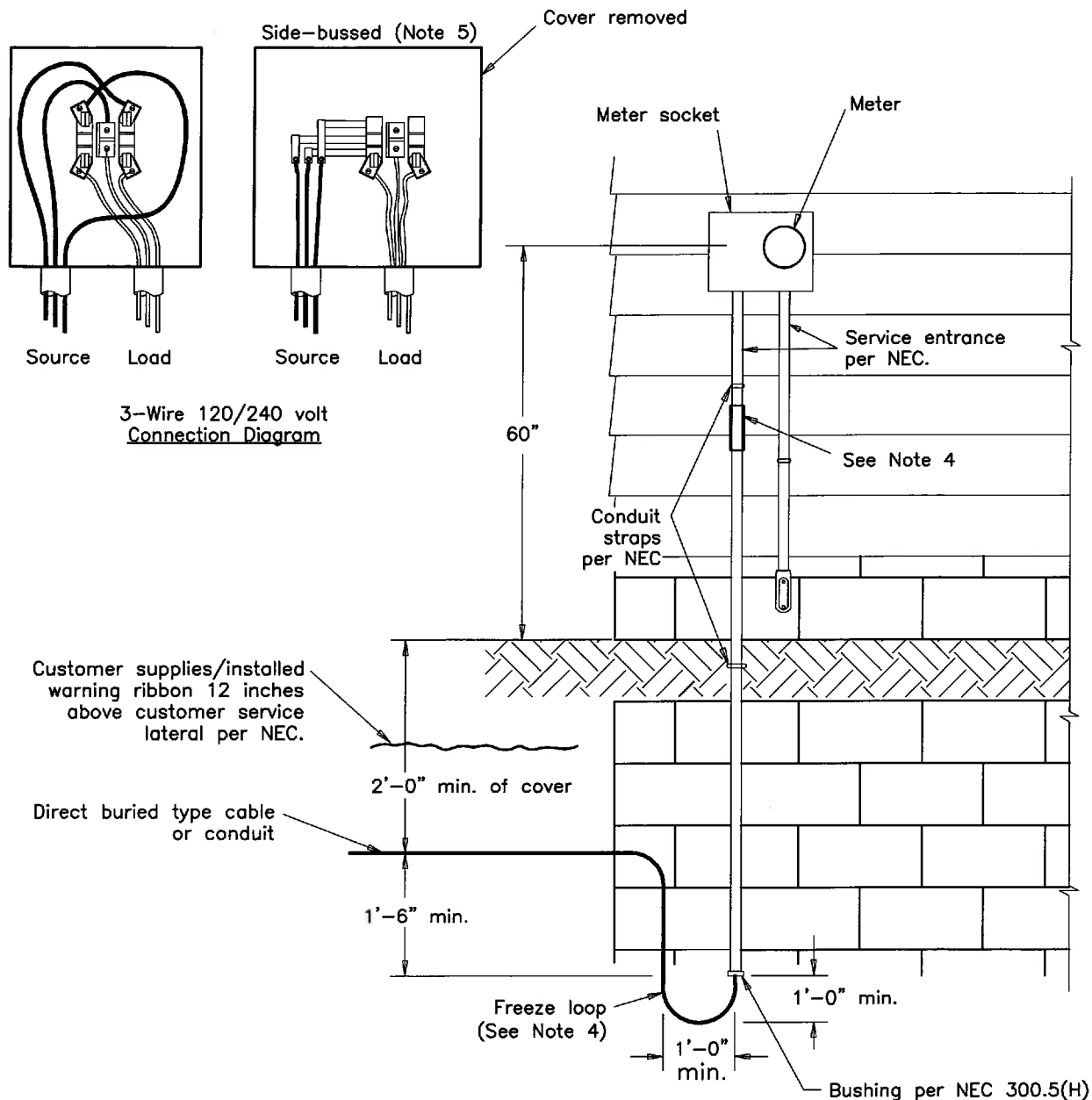
2

EXHIBIT 12

DATE

2/19

## **EMAIL ATTACHMENT 4**



**Notes:**

1. For customer/Company responsibilities, see Exhibit 1.
2. See Section 6.0 for underground service details.
3. For trenching and conduit details, see Exhibit 24.
4. The customer shall provide a well tamped and firm trench (see Exhibit 24). The customer should provide ground movement protection per NEC 300.5(J) to prevent damage due to settlement or frost heaves. The Company recommends that the customer use a slip-joint conduit product. Additionally, sufficient slack or a slack box should be provided by the customer to allow for cable movement. For 3" dia. conduit installation the Company recommends that the customer install a slip joint with an attached slack box.
5. Side-bussed meter socket is preferred.

**TYPICAL SINGLE-PHASE UNDERGROUND  
SERVICE LATERAL INSTALLATION  
400 AMP OR LESS**

**FirstEnergy**

Service Guide

REV.

2

**EXHIBIT 8**

DATE

2/19

## EXHIBIT B



**From:** Lawson, Cory

**Sent:** Monday, November 22, 2021 12:55 PM

**To:** [daveschifer@gmail.com](mailto:daveschifer@gmail.com)

**Subject:** pole abandon

please sign and email this back to me.

Thanks, Cory Lawson

Office 740-382-7164



## **EMAIL ATTACHMENT**

**WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND DISCLAIMER OF  
WARRANTY FOR TREATED WOOD PRODUCTS**

FORM X-2955 REV (07-21)

**1) Treated Wood Products**

**Fill In All That Apply**

Location:

How Many

Length

1013 St Rt 294  
Bucyrus, OH 44820

☒ Poles:

1

35/5

☐ Other (Treated Wood Products Other Than Poles):

Quantity

Type

I, the undersigned:

2) For myself, my heirs, executors and assigns, agree to defend, pay, indemnify and hold  
Ohio Edison

, herewith referred to as the Company, its successors, agents, employees and assigns harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, actions or causes of action, together with any and all losses, costs or expenses, including reasonable attorney fees, in connection therewith or related thereto, that are asserted by any person(s) or entities for bodily injury, death or property damage arising from the acquisition, reuse or processing for reuse of treated wood products or any subsequent use thereof; unless said damages, death or injury was caused by the sole negligence of the Company.

3) Acknowledge and agree to ownership and possession of the treated wood products described herein, ON AN "AS IS BASIS" WITH ALL DEFECTS, IF ANY, AND THAT THE COMPANY MAKES NO WARRANTIES, EITHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, BY OPERATION OF LAW OR OTHERWISE, OF PRODUCTS FURNISHED HEREUNDER OR IN CONNECTION HERewith. THE COMPANY DISCLAIMS ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. NO REPRESENTATION OR OTHER AFFIRMATION OF FACT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, STATEMENTS REGARDING SUITABILITY FOR USE OR PERFORMANCE WHETHER MADE BY THE COMPANY'S EMPLOYEES OR OTHERWISE, SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE A WARRANTY BY THE COMPANY FOR ANY PURPOSE, OR GIVE RISE TO ANY LIABILITY OF THE COMPANY WHATSOEVER.

4) Certify that I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THAT PORTION OF THIS DOCUMENT, CONCERNING HANDLING AND USE PRECAUTIONS FOR CRESOTE, PENTA, AND CCA TREATED WOOD PRODUCTS, AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS.

5) Acknowledge and represent that I am the Receiver of the treated wood products described herein, either as the Owner of the property where the treated wood products will be reused or processed for reuse, or as the representative of the Owner of the business and/or property where the treated wood products will be reused or processed for reuse, and whose address is set forth below. I further acknowledge that I have read and understand this waiver, release of liability and disclaimer of warranty form and that I have been given every opportunity to have legal counsel of my choice review the same and now sign below of my own free will.

WITNESS (For the Company):



Signature

Cory Lawson

Name (Print or Type)

Planner

Title

RECEIVER OF THE TREATED WOOD PRODUCTS:

Signature

Date

Name of Receiver (Print or Type)

Relation to Owner of Business and/or Property, if Representative

Address of Site Where Treated Wood Products will be Reused or  
Processed for Reuse:

Address:

1040 S Prospect St

Marion, OH 43302

**\*\*Maintain a copy of completed form with site environmental records\*\***

## **ATTENTION**

This wood may have been preserved by pressure treatment with an EPA-registered pesticide containing CREOSOTE, DCOI, PENTACHLOROPHENOL (PENTA) or Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) to protect it from insect attack and decay. Wood treated with CREOSOTE, PENTA, or CCA, should be used only where such protection is important.

CREOSOTE, PENTA, or CCA, penetrates deeply into and remains in the pressure-treated wood for a long time. Exposure to CREOSOTE, PENTA, or CCA may present certain hazards. Therefore, the following precautions should be taken both when handling the treated wood and in determining where to use the treated wood.

### **HANDLING PRECAUTIONS FOR CREOSOTE/PENTA/CCA PRESSURE-TREATED WOOD**

- Dispose of treated wood by ordinary trash collection, or as authorized by state and federal regulations. Treated wood should not be burned in open fires or stoves, fireplaces, or residential boilers, because toxic chemicals may be produced as part of the smoke and ashes. Treated wood from commercial or industrial use (e.g., construction sites) may be burned only in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with state and federal regulations.
- Avoid frequent or prolonged inhalation of sawdust from treated wood. When sawing and machining treated wood, wear a dust mask. Whenever possible, these operations should be performed outdoors to avoid indoor accumulations of airborne sawdust from treated wood.
- Avoid frequent or prolonged skin contact with CREOSOTE, PENTA or CCA treated wood; when handling the treated wood, wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants or tightly woven coveralls and use gloves impervious to the chemicals (for example, gloves that are vinyl coated).
- When power-sawing and machining, wear goggles to protect eyes from flying particles.
- After working with wood or after skin contact, and before eating, drinking, and use of tobacco products, wash exposed areas thoroughly.
- Because preservatives or sawdust may accumulate on clothes, launder before reuse. Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing.
- Coal tar pitch and coal tar pitch emulsion are effective sealers for CREOSOTE-treated wood block flooring. Urethane, epoxy, and shellac are acceptable sealers for all CREOSOTE-treated wood.
- Urethane, shellac, latex epoxy enamel and varnish are acceptable sealers for PENTA and CCA treated wood.

### **USE SITE PRECAUTIONS**

- All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
- Wood treated with CREOSOTE or PENTA should not be used where it will be in frequent or prolonged contact with bare skin (for example, chairs and other outdoor furniture), unless an effective sealer has been applied.
- CREOSOTE-treated wood should not be used in residential interiors. CREOSOTE-treated wood in interiors of industrial buildings should only be used for industrial building components which are in ground contact and are subject to decay or insect infestation and wood block flooring where two coats of an appropriate sealer are applied.
- PENTA-treated wood should not be used in residential, industrial, or commercial interiors except for laminated beams or building components which are in ground contact and are subject to decay or insect infestation and where two coats of an appropriate sealer are applied.
- CCA-treated wood may be used inside residences as long as all sawdust and construction debris are cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
- Wood-treated with CREOSOTE, PENTA, or CCA should not be used in the interiors of farm buildings where there may be direct contact with domestic animals or livestock which may crib (bite) or lick the wood.
- In interiors of farm buildings where domestic animals or livestock are unlikely to crib (bite) or lick the wood, CREOSOTE-or PENTA-treated wood may only be used for building components which are in ground contact, and are subject to decay or insect infestation, if two coats of an appropriate sealer are applied. Sealers may be applied at the installation site.
- Do not use CREOSOTE, PENTA or CCA treated wood for farrowing or brooding facilities.
- Do not use treated wood under circumstances where the preservative may become a component of food or animal feed. Examples of such use would be structures or containers for storing silage or food.
- Do not use treated wood for cutting boards or countertops.
- Only treated wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue should be used for patios, decks and walkways.
- Do not use treated wood for construction of those portions of beehives which may come into contact with the honey.
- CREOSOTE, PENTA or CCA treated wood should not be used where it may come into contact with public drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as docks and bridges.
- Do not use CREOSOTE, PENTA or CCA treated wood where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water for domestic animals or livestock, except for uses involving incidental contact such as docks or bridges.
- Logs treated with PENTA should not be used for log homes.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the forgoing Direct Testimony of Cory Lawson on Behalf Ohio Edison Company was filed electronically through the Docketing Information System of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio on this 11th day of April 2023. The PUCO's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on counsel for all parties. A courtesy copy was also sent via U.S. Mail and Email this 11th day of April 2023 to:

David Schifer  
1065 State Route 294  
Bucyrus, Ohio 44820  
Email: daveschifer@gmail.com  
Complainant

/s/ John W. Breig, Jr.  
John W. Breig, Jr. (0096767)  
*One of the Attorneys for Ohio Edison Company*

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**4/11/2023 2:16:20 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 22-0435-EL-CSS**

Summary: Testimony Direct Testimony of Cory Lawson electronically filed by Mr.  
John W. Breig on behalf of Ohio Edison Company.