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Mr. Clint White **Public Utilities Commission** Columbus, OH Case Number 21-0857-EL-CSS

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PUCO

Mr. White,

First, I would like to thank you for making arrangements to sit down and have a hearing with the Ohio Public Utilities Commissions, in reference to the "transmission line" that is over the top of my home. After receipt of the appointment date and time, I made special arrangements to extend my stay here in Ohio for an entire extra month to make sure I was available for that date.

On 10/18/23, I received a call from an attorney for the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company. Mr. Rogers informed me that he needed additional time and would be requesting a continuance to the date that has already been established for the hearing. I explained to him this was not something that I was able to do. It is my understanding that this attorney will not be prepared to have his witness at that time. Mr. Rogers indicated there has been some sort of change to my original inquiry about the transmission line needing moved. Mr. Rogers also indicated on the phone call that there was a witness that had a conflict of schedule and would not be able to attend on the confirmed date.

The safety of anyone living in close proximity to a transmission line would always be the first concern to anyone, this would go without saying. In my opinion, there would not be any reason to request a continuance of the set date hearing. It is my understanding, witnesses are able to give a deposition to the attorney, in this case Mr. Rogers, which can be brought with him at the set appointment. I have already extended my stay here in Ohio by a month, I typically leave to go back to Florida on October 1st of each year. Arrangements were made not to leave until November 1st, after the appointment hearing date of October 31st, 2023.

I felt that this hearing was important enough to make all of these changes, and you gave me plenty of time to do so since your contact about this hearing date was given to all of us a month ago. This was very much appreciated on my end, which gave me the time to prepare. Mr. Rogers, representing the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, has had the exact same amount of time to prepare. The lack of preparation and delay on his part, should not constitute an emergency on my part, nor yours, nor any others involved in the hearing. In the three years I have been dealing with this directly with the Illuminating Company, and them being well aware of my schedule, their request was not only anticipated, but expected. It was very important for me to reach out to you and let you know that I strongly request the Public Utilities Commission deny any request for change of date or continuation of the date already set.

Thank you so much for your time. It is my hope that I will see you at 10 AM on October 31, 2023, in Columbus Ohio for the said date hearing on Case Number 21-0857-EL-CSS.

Rick Bihlajama

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