

**SOAR Energy** **A Solar & Renewable** **Energy Buyers Cooperative**

**FAX** August 9, 2002

Ms. Daisy Crockron  
Chief, Docketing Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

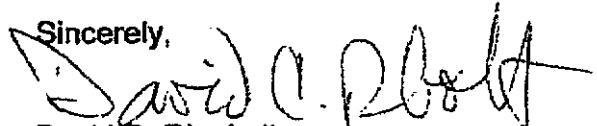
PUCO  
AUG 9 PM 4:53

RE: Amendment to Application filed as Case No. 02-<sup>1743</sup>~~153~~-GA-AGG

Dear Ms Crockron:

The Solar and Renewable Energy Buyers Cooperative, d/b/a SOAR Energy hereby submits an original and ten copies of a modification to the organization;s filing for certification as a natural gas aggregator.

If there are any questions regarding this filing, please contact me directly at 419/425-8860.

Sincerely,  
  
David C. Rinebolt  
President

Encl - 1

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business  
Technician DAH Date Processed 8/9/02

**Exhibit A-17 Secretary of State.**

See the following attachments.

**\*200129201562\***

DATE	DOCUMENT ID	DESCRIPTION	FILING	EXPED	PENALTY	CERT	COPY
10/19/2001	200129201562	DOMESTIC ARTICLES/NON-PROFIT (ARN)	125.00	.00	.00	.00	.00

**Receipt**

This is not a bill. Please do not remit payment.

BENESCH FRIEDLANDER  
88 E. BROAD ST., SUITE 900  
ATTN: DENA ZIUK  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

# STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATE

**Ohio Secretary of State, J. Kenneth Blackwell**

1262635

It is hereby certified that the Secretary of State of Ohio has custody of the business records for

**SOLAR AND RENEWABLE ENERGY BUYERS COOPERATIVE**

and, that said business records show the filing and recording of:

Document(s):

**DOMESTIC ARTICLES/NON-PROFIT**

Document No(s):

**200129201562**

United States of America  
State of Ohio  
Office of the Secretary of State

Witness my hand and the seal of the  
Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio  
this 18th day of October, A.D. 2001.

*J. Kenneth Blackwell*  
Ohio Secretary of State

**\*200131200866\***

DATE	DOCUMENT ID	DESCRIPTION	FILING	EXPED	PENALTY	CERT	COPY
11/08/2001	200131200866	TRADE NAME/ORIGINAL FILING (RNO)	50.00	.00	.00	.00	.00

**Receipt**

This is not a bill. Please do not remit payment.

BENESCH FRIEDLANDER  
88 E. BROAD ST., SUITE 900  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

# STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATE

Ohio Secretary of State, J. Kenneth Blackwell

1268637

It is hereby certified that the Secretary of State of Ohio has custody of the business records for  
**SOAR ENERGY**

and, that said business records show the filing and recording of:

Document(s):

**TRADE NAME/ORIGINAL FILING**

Date of First Use: 10/01/2001  
Expiration Date: 11/07/2006

Document No(s):

**200131200866**

SOLAR AND RENEWABLE ENERGY  
BUYERS COOPERATIVE  
337 S MAIN ST  
4TH FL STE 5  
FINDLAY, OH 45840



United States of America  
State of Ohio  
Office of the Secretary of State

Witness my hand and the seal of the  
Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio  
this 7th day of November, A.D. 2001.

*J. Kenneth Blackwell*  
Ohio Secretary of State

### **Exhibit D-1 Operations.**

Operational support for SOAR Energy is being provided by the Midwest Energy Research Center (MERC) under an arrangement approved by both organizations' Boards of Trustees. MERC employees serve as the staff for the Cooperative and manage all business functions. MERC also provides the physical facilities for the Cooperative.

MERC employees serve as the President and Project Manager, respectively, for SOAR Energy. The President is responsible for identifying potential suppliers of products and services of interest to cooperative members and takes the lead in negotiations. These suppliers include natural gas marketers, electricity marketers, energy efficiency product wholesalers, renewable energy product wholesalers, organizations providing energy efficiency services, and renewable energy system installers. The President also works with the financial community and government agencies to locate potential subsidies or incentive programs that can benefit Cooperative members.

The President and the Project Manager jointly work to design marketing campaigns and collateral materials. These activities include the development of mailing lists, working with environmental and conservation organizations to develop support for the Cooperative, coordinating stories and presentations to supporting organizations, and other marketing approaches.

The Project Manager maintains the SOAR Energy website and creates catalogues for marketing energy efficiency products. The Project Manager is also responsible for maintaining the membership database, overseeing the accounting system including tracking membership patronage, and coordinating fulfillment responsibilities with new and existing members. The Project Manager also serves as the primary contact with electric and natural gas suppliers to ensure that customers are switched in a timely manner and resolve and problems that may prevent switching. Finally, the Project Manager serves as point of contact for all inquiries received by the Cooperative, monitoring the toll-free telephone, e-mail and fax communications from current and potential members.

## D-2 Operational Expertise

SOAR Energy is designed as a mechanism to make the expertise developed by MERC and its sister organization Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy (OPAЕ), available to the residential, small commercial and other energy consumers. OPAЕ initially aggregated several of its members to shop for natural gas the first year the Columbia Gas of Ohio Choice® Program expanded system-wide. The next year, MERC began pulling together customer groups to participate in the Dominion East Ohio pilot program.

In 1998, MERC obtained funding to assist public housing authorities in purchasing natural gas competitively under new rules issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This effort evolved over the next three years into the creation of the Public Housing Authority Aggregation Consortium of Ohio (PHAACO), an organization that currently represents nine housing authorities that pool and bid their natural gas requirements. MERC has also assisted a number of other nonprofits including the County Commissioners Association of Ohio, AARP, and Youngstown State University in evaluating and designing aggregation programs. Finally, MERC has also created a handbook on aggregated purchasing with funding from the Joyce Foundation. The handbook has been widely distributed nationally and is available through the MERC website ([www.opaemerc.org](http://www.opaemerc.org)).

### D-3 Key Technical Personnel

David C. Rinebolt  
President  
[drinebolt@aol.com](mailto:drinebolt@aol.com)  
419/425-8860

Mr. Rinebolt has over 21 years of experience in dealing with policy issues relating to human services, energy and natural resources. For the past 7 years, he has served as executive director and counsel to Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy. In this capacity he has been actively involved in the evolution of competitive energy markets in Ohio. For the past 5 years, Mr. Rinebolt has also served as executive director of the Midwest Energy Research Center (MERC). MERC has, among other projects, worked with a variety of institutional nonprofits in developing purchasing aggregations and negotiating for competitive energy supplies. Finally, Mr. Rinebolt serves as President of the Energy Cooperative of Ohio, a natural gas marketer separately seeking certification in Ohio.

Prior to starting with MERC, Mr. Rinebolt served as Director of Programs for the National Association of State Energy Officials. He was responsible for coordinating state involvement in the development of International Monitoring and Verification Protocols used to determine the savings from energy efficiency retrofits and served as the organization's representative on matter involving home energy ratings systems (HERS). Mr. Rinebolt also served as Legislative Director to Representative Collin C. Peterson (MN-7), staffing both the House Agriculture Committee and the House Government Operations Committee. He also worked for the Bureau of Land Management of the Department of the Interior, for the Governor of Minnesota, and the Coalition of Northeastern Governors. In the latter position, he managed the Northeast Regional Biomass Program, an effort designed to promote the use of biomass energy.

Mr. Rinebolt also served as Director of Research for the National Wood Energy Association and was counsel to a number of renewable energy trade associations. He has published numerous articles on biomass energy including the first national survey of biomass use, as well as a number of papers regarding global climate change and the impact of biomass energy on greenhouse gas levels.

Mr. Rinebolt holds a Bachelor of Liberal Studies Degree from Bowling Green State University (May 1978) and a Juris Doctor Degree from the Columbus School of Law at the Catholic University of America (May 1981). He has also committed coursework at the Institute for Utility Studies at Michigan State University.

Angela DeAngelo  
Project Manager  
[adeangelo@soarenergy.org](mailto:adeangelo@soarenergy.org)  
877/439-4706

Ms DeAngelo joined MERC in October 2001 as Deputy Director. In that capacity, she has been involved in the development of SOAR Energy since its inception, including creation of communications materials, the organization website, and working with members and suppliers. Prior to joining MERC, Ms. DeAngelo worked in retail management, coordinated watershed protection efforts and developed training materials for customer service staffs. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis on Environmental Science from Bowling Green State University.