

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Complaint of)	
Dennis Kucinich, Member of Congress,)	
10 th District of Ohio)	Case No. 03-1833-EL-CSS
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
vs.)	
)	
First Energy, on behalf of)	
The Cleveland Electric Illuminating)	
Company, Ohio Edison Company, and)	
The Toledo Edison Company)	

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

The Neighborhood Environmental Coalition (“Coalition”) and Consumers for Fair Utility Rates (“Consumers”) hereby give notice to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (“Commission”) that they withdraw from the above-captioned matter.

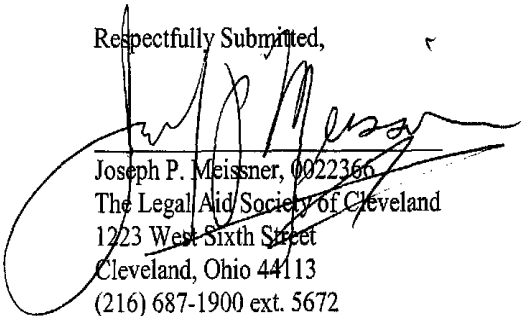
Coalition and Consumers are disappointed in the Commission’s failure to pursue this complaint in accordance with its statutory obligations. The blackout of 2003 exposed literally millions of people to harm. The parties to this case have sufficiently demonstrated that serious questions exist as to the competence of First Energy and its role in the blackout of 2003. If First Energy’s egregious failures with respect to the blackout of 2003 are not sufficient grounds for investigation and imposition of penalties, then what is?

The Commission should have, at the very least, initiated a comprehensive investigation into the complaints and taken action to reduce the likelihood of future blackouts. The Commission’s utter failure to protect consumers is cause for concern.

It is impossible for consumer alone to hold First Energy accountable for its actions. They lack the funds, staff, and legal representation enjoyed by the Commission. Therefore, consumers rely on the Commission to aggressively protect their interests. The Commission's refusal to act in this important and historic case forces Coalition and Consumers to file this Notice of Withdrawal.

The questions raised by the blackout of 2003 remain unanswered. Equally important, the Commission's failure to aggressively look into the matter raises more questions. How can consumers trust that they will be protected when the Commission refuses to aggressively investigate a utility company directly involved in the largest blackout in American history? The Commission appears willing to overlook the harm done and favor the interests of large utility companies over the interests of the general public. As a result, the questions surrounding the blackout of 2003 will remain unanswered and the public will continue to be at risk.

Respectfully Submitted,



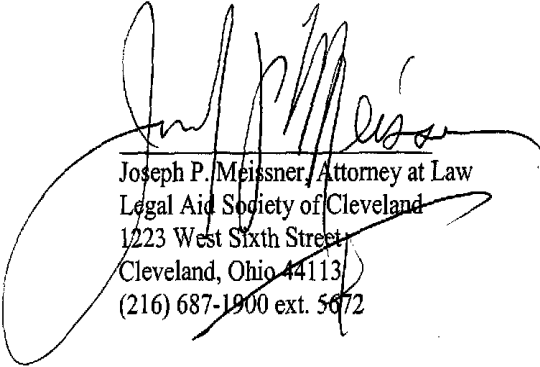
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served by ordinary first class United States Mail, postage prepaid, to the persons listed below, on this 24th day of March, 2006.



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