OCC Extiton 1 to:	OCC	Exhibit	No.	
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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Ohio)	
Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric)	Case No. 09-906-EL-SSO
Illuminating Company, and The Toledo)	
Edison Company For Approval of a)	
Market Rate Offer to Conduct A)	
Competitive Bidding Process for Standard)	
Service Offer Electric Generation Supply,)	
Accounting Modifications Associated)	
With Reconciliation Mechanism, and)	
Tariffs for Generation Service.)	

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JONATHAN WALLACH Resource Insight, Inc.

ON BEHALF OF

THE OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL

10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800 Columbus, Ohio 43215

DECEMBER 7, 2009

1	QI:	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, OCCUPATION, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
2	AI:	My name is Jonathan F. Wallach. I am Vice President of Resource Insight, Inc., 5
3		Water Street, Arlington, Massachusetts.
4		
5	Q2:	PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND
6		EXPERIENCE.
7	A2:	I have worked as a consultant to the electric-power industry since 1981. From
8		1981 to 1986, I was a research associate at Energy Systems Research Group. In
9		1987 and 1988, I was an independent consultant. From 1989 to 1990, I was a
0		senior analyst at Komanoff Energy Associates. I have been in my current position
1		at Resource Insight since September of 1990.
12		
13		Over the last twenty-eight years, I have advised clients and testified on a wide
14		range of economic, planning, and policy issues including: electric-utility
15		restructuring; wholesale-power market design and operations; transmission
16		pricing and policy; market valuation of generating assets and purchase contracts;
17		power-procurement strategies; integrated resource planning; cost allocation and
18		rate design; and energy-efficiency program design and planning.
19		My resume is attached as Exhibit JFWAL-1.
20		
21	Q3:	PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH REGARD TO THE
22		COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT OF WHOLESALE SUPPLY FOR
23		STANDARD SERVICE RETAIL LOAD.

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A3: Over the past nine years, I have participated on behalf of the Maryland Office of People's Counsel in the process of designing, implementing, and monitoring the Standard Offer Service procurement mechanism for the four Maryland investorowned utilities. I participated in the negotiations that established Maryland's procurement approach, and designed the mechanism for screening price offers against a benchmark market price. Since then, I have monitored every round of bidding, and assisted the Office of People's Counsel in the annual stakeholder process regarding modifications to the procurement mechanism. Finally, I have testified on the People's Counsel's behalf in every investigation by the Maryland Public Service Commission of alternative procurement approaches, and was lead investigator for a major study of expected costs and risks associated with alternative procurement approaches. Similarly, in Connecticut, I have participated in the Standard Service procurement process for the two investor-owned utilities. On behalf of the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel, I have participated in the development of requests for proposals, independently evaluated price offers on bid day, participated in the 17 18 selection of winning bids, and appeared at hearings by the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control regarding the selection of winning bids. In 19 addition, I am currently involved in a collaborative effort to procure medium- and 20 long-term contracts for Standard Service supply.

1		Finally, since 2003, I have assisted the Cape Light Compact in the solicitation and
2		acquisition of retail supply to serve the aggregated load of 21 towns on Cape Cod
3		and Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.
4		
5	Q4:	ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING?
6	A4:	I am testifying on behalf of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel ("OCC").
7		
8	Q5:	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?
9	A5:	On October 20, 2009, Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating
10		Company, and The Toledo Edison Company ("FirstEnergy Ohio" or "the
11		Companies") filed for approval of a proposed auction process ("competitive bid
12		process" or "CBP") for procuring wholesale supply for Standard Service Offer
13		("SSO") retail generation service starting on June 1, 2011. Previously, on August
14		17, 2009, FirstEnergy Ohio, along with its transmission affiliate American
15		Transmission Systems, Inc. ("ATSI"), had filed at the Federal Energy Regulatory
16		Commission ("FERC") a proposed implementation plan for withdrawing from the
17		Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator ("MISO") and migrating to
18		PJM Interconnection, LLC ("PJM"). This implementation plan calls for
19		completing the integration with PJM by June 1, 2011.
20		
21		My testimony addresses the implications of the transition to PJM for the proposed
22		auction process. Specifically, I discuss how the transition poses increased price
23		risk to potential bidders, and recommend temporary changes to the CBP to

1 accommodate such transitory risks. In addition, I address the Companies' 2 contingency planning for the CBP in the event that FERC does not approve the 3 proposed integration plan on the date requested by the Companies in their FERC 4 filing. Finally, I propose long-term modifications to the CBP auction design that 5 may improve price transparency and reduce prices to consumers. 6 PLEASE DESCRIBE FIRSTENERGY OHIO'S PROPOSAL FOR THE 7 06: 8 DESIGN OF THE COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS. 9 A6: Starting in June of 2010, the Companies propose to conduct two descending-10 price clock auctions per year (in June and October) to purchase wholesale supply 11 to serve SSO retail load. In the first two auctions, in June and October of 2010, 12 the Companies would solicit offers for 12-, 24-, and 36-month contracts for delivery starting in June of 2011. In subsequent annual cycles, with auctions in 13 14 June and October of each year, the Companies would solicit solely 36-month 15 contracts with delivery starting in June of the following year. 16 17 In each auction, FirstEnergy Ohio's SSO load would be divided into "tranches" representing 1% of total SSO load across service territories and all rate classes. 18 The first two auctions in 2010 would seek to procure supply offers to meet a total 19 20 of 34 tranches of SSO load with 12-month contracts, 34 tranches with 24-month 21 contracts, and 32 tranches with 36-month contracts. If all of these tranches are 22 successfully filled by the conclusion of the auction in October of 2010, then the 23 Companies would have acquired enough wholesale supply to serve 100% of SSO

l		load between June of 2011 and May of 2012, 66% of SSO load between June of
2		2012 and May of 2013, and 32% of SSO load between June of 2013 and May of
3		2014.
4		
5		In subsequent annual cycles, FirstEnergy Ohio would solicit offers to meet either
6		32 or 34 tranches of SSO load with 36-month contracts. As a result, at the
7		conclusion of each annual cycle, the Companies would have acquired enough
8		supply to serve 100% of SSO load for the upcoming delivery year, and about two-
9		thirds and one-third of SSO load for the following two delivery years,
10		respectively.
11		
12	<i>Q7</i> :	WHAT TYPE OF SUPPLY PRODUCT WOULD BE SOLICITED IN THE CBP
	-	
13	~	AUCTIONS?
	A7:	AUCTIONS? The CBP auctions would solicit offers for full-requirements wholesale supply.
13	-	
13 14	-	The CBP auctions would solicit offers for full-requirements wholesale supply.
13 14 15	-	The CBP auctions would solicit offers for full-requirements wholesale supply. Under the Companies' proposal, full-requirements wholesale supply is defined to
13 14 15 16	-	The CBP auctions would solicit offers for full-requirements wholesale supply. Under the Companies' proposal, full-requirements wholesale supply is defined to include the supply of energy, capacity, ancillary services, losses, and any other
13 14 15 16	-	The CBP auctions would solicit offers for full-requirements wholesale supply. Under the Companies' proposal, full-requirements wholesale supply is defined to include the supply of energy, capacity, ancillary services, losses, and any other electrical services other than tariffed transmission and distribution services
13 14 15 16 17	-	The CBP auctions would solicit offers for full-requirements wholesale supply. Under the Companies' proposal, full-requirements wholesale supply is defined to include the supply of energy, capacity, ancillary services, losses, and any other electrical services other than tariffed transmission and distribution services necessary to serve customers' load at all times. Full-requirements supply is a
13 14 15 16 17 18	-	The CBP auctions would solicit offers for full-requirements wholesale supply. Under the Companies' proposal, full-requirements wholesale supply is defined to include the supply of energy, capacity, ancillary services, losses, and any other electrical services other than tariffed transmission and distribution services necessary to serve customers' load at all times. Full-requirements supply is a "load-following" service, in the sense that a full-requirements supplier is

1 08: HOW WOULD CLEARING PRICES BE DETERMINED UNDER FIRSTENERGY OHIO'S PROPOSED AUCTION DESIGN? 2 3 A8: FirstEnergy Ohio proposes to procure SSO supply through a multiple-round, descending-price clock auction. Under the declining-clock format proposed by the 4 Companies, a clock price would be announced at the start of each round of 5 bidding. In response, bidders would offer the number of load tranches they are 6 willing to serve at that price. In general, if the total number of tranches offered by 7 8 all bidders exceeds the target amount for that auction, then the price clock would 9 tick down and another bidding round would be conducted. If the total number of tranches offered in a bidding round is less than or equal to the target, then the 10 auction would conclude and the clearing price would be set at the clock price for 11 the last or, in some cases, second-to-last, round.² 12 13 14 *Q9:* WOULD THE CLEARING PRICE VARY OVER THE TERM OF THE 15 SUPPLY PRODUCT? 16 A9: No. The proposed CBP auction is designed to acquire full-requirements supply at a price that is fixed over the term of the contract executed with a winning bidder. 17

¹ For the first two auctions in June and October of 2010, there would be separate clock prices for the 12-, 24-, and 36-month supply products.

² For the first two auctions in June and October of 2010, the auctions will not end until offers for each of the three supply products fall below the respective tranche targets for the three products. For example, if at the end of a bidding round the 12- and 24-month products are under-subscribed and the 36-month product is oversubscribed, the price clock for the 36-month product will tick down (but not for the 12- or 24-month products), and another round of bidding will be conducted. Within certain limits, bidders in this new round will be free to increase the number of tranches offered for the 12- or 24-month products or to decrease the number of tranches offered for the 36-month product.

ł		Thus, the price announced in each bidding round for each supply product, as well
2		as the clearing price at the completion of the auction, would be a single price that
3		applies over the entire product term. ³
4		
5	Q10:	WOULD THE COMPANIES NECESSARILY PURCHASE THE TRANCHES
6		THAT CLEAR IN AN AUCTION?
7	A10:	No. Prior to the start of an auction, the auction manager would determine, but not
8		announce, a "reservation price" for each supply product, representing the
9		maximum price that the Companies would pay for each product in that auction. If
10		the clearing price at the end of the auction for a product exceeds that product's
11		reservation price, the Companies would not purchase the tranches that clear in the
12		auction for that product.
13		
14	Q11:	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE RESERVATION PRICE?
15	A11:	The Companies do not discuss the role of the reservation price in the proposed
16		auction process. ⁴ However, the primary purpose of the reservation price should be
17		to ensure that auction-clearing prices reasonably reflect competitive market
18		conditions and that the Companies are purchasing, on customers behalf, full-
19		requirements products at the lowest feasible cost.

³ On the other hand, the price paid by ratepayers for SSO supply will vary by year due to the laddered procurement of full-requirements contracts over time. The retail price for SSO supply in any year will reflect a blending of fixed prices from a mix of overlapping contracts purchased at different times at different prices. That blend will change each year as contracts expire and are replaced with new contracts at different prices.

⁴ Nor do the Companies indicate whether there will be separate reservation prices specific to each of the solicited full-requirements products.

1		In order to fulfill this role, the reservation price should reflect bidders'
2		expectations regarding the cost to acquire the wholesale products that comprise
3		full-requirements supply. In particular, the reservation price should be specific to
4		the product being solicited and should reflect current market expectations
5		regarding:
6		Uncongested forward energy cost;
7		• Congestion cost (net of financial congestion hedge);
8		Congestion hedge cost;
9		• Zonal capacity cost (net of capacity transfer rights);
10		Ancillary-service costs;
11		• Losses;
12		• Transaction costs (e.g., cost of credit); and
13		• Risk.
14		
15	Q12:	WHAT TYPES OF RISK ARE BIDDERS LIKELY TO REFLECT IN THEIR
16		COST ESTIMATES FOR FULL-REQUIREMENTS SUPPLY?
17	A12:	As discussed more fully by OCC witness James Wilson, such cost estimates
18		would likely reflect general cost risk associated with uncertainty in forecasts of
19		price and load (and the correlation between price and load volatility.)
20		
21		As I discuss below, bidders in the CBP auctions would also face unique, yet
22		transient, cost risks due to the migration of FirstEnergy Ohio from MISO to PJM
23		These risks arise in part because there will be little or no data regarding the

1		impact of the migration on PJM system performance or market prices for some
2		time after the integration is completed. Bidders may also face risks to the extent
3		that there is uncertainty around the expected date for completing the integration.
4		
5	Q13:	PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE COMPANIES' IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
6		FOR MIGRATING TO PJM.
7	A13:	The Companies propose to transfer all load, generation, and transmission in the
8		ATSI zone from MISO to PJM by June 1, 2011. Before then, the Companies
9		propose to participate in a series of auctions to acquire capacity for the purposes
10		of meeting their obligations under PJM's Reliability Pricing Model ("RPM")
11		market. For the planning years starting in June of 2011 and 2012, the Companies
12		would purchase capacity on behalf of all load in the ATSI zone (other than load
13		that opts to self-supply) through two annual "transition" auctions. Under the
14		proposed implementation plan, these transition auctions would be held in March
15		of 2010. For the planning year starting in June of 2013, the Companies would
16		participate in PJM's Base Residual Auction ("BRA") in May of 2010. ⁵
17		
18		In addition, in the Spring of 2011, FirstEnergy Ohio (along with other load-
19		serving entities in the ATSI zone) would be eligible to participate in PJM's annual
20		process for allocating and auctioning congestion hedges for the planning year
21		starting in June of 2011. Specifically, the Companies would be eligible to

 $^{^{5}}$ All other load-serving entities in the ATS1 zone would also be eligible to participate in the Base Residual Auction.

1		participate in the process for nominating and allocating Auction Revenue Rights
2		("ARR") in March of 2011, and the annual auction for Financial Transmission
3		Rights ("FTR") in the following month. ⁶
4		
5	Q14:	IS FIRSTENERGY OHIO SEEKING FERC APPROVAL OF ITS
6		INTEGRATION PLAN BY A DATE CERTAIN?
7	A14:	Yes. The Companies have requested that FERC rule on its proposal by December
8		17, 2009:
9		Once the generation and load in the ATSI footprint participate in the
10		May 2010 RPM auction, it would be very difficult to unwind the
11		results. FirstEnergy therefore requests final rulings on the key
12		elements of its proposal, as described below. This will provide
13		FirstEnergy's management and Board of Directors with time, prior to
14		the deadline to commit load into the May 2010 Base Residual
15		Auction for the 2013-14 Delivery Year, to evaluate the
16		Commission's order and determine whether to commit to enter
17		PJM. ⁷

⁶ Pursuant to PJM procedures for new zones, load-serving entities in the ATS1 zone would have the option of being directly allocated Financial Transmission Rights for two planning years starting in June of 2011.

⁷ FERC Docket No. ER09-1589-000, Application, August 17, 2009, p. 13.

1	Q15:	HOW DOES FIRSTENERGY OHIO PLAN TO PROCEED WITH THE
2		INTEGRATION IF FERC DOES NOT APPROVE ITS PROPOSAL BY
3		DECEMBER 17, 2009?
4	A15:	The Companies have not indicated in their filings at FERC or in the instant
5		proceeding how they would proceed in the event that either FERC fails to rule by
6		the requested date; a final ruling is deferred by requests for rehearing; a final
7		ruling is subject to court appeal; or the integration proceeds on a timeline other
8		than that proposed in the Companies' implementation plan. In particular, the
9		Companies have not indicated whether they would participate in the BRA in May
10		of 2010, if their integration proposal were still subject to litigation at that time.8
11		Likewise, the Companies have not indicated whether they would proceed with
12		the transition capacity auctions on the same schedule if litigation is still ongoing.
13		
14	Q16:	WHAT IS THE COMPANIES' CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THE CBP IN
15		THE EVENT THAT FERC DOES NOT APPROVE THE INTEGRATION
16		PLAN BY DECEMBER 17, 2009?
17	A16:	The Companies have not indicated in their filing in this proceeding whether and,
18		if so, how they would alter the proposed design or schedule for the competitive
19		bidding process in the event that approval of the integration plan is delayed
20		beyond the requested date. Nor is there any indication in their filing as to how the

⁸ Regardless of the Companies' decision in this regard, it is not clear that it would be feasible for PJM to include the ATSI zone in the May 2010 BRA in the absence of final resolution of integration litigation, since including the ATSI zone would affect BRA clearing prices paid (and the amount of capacity to be purchased) not just by FirstEnergy Ohio but all other market participants in the ATSI zone and throughout PJM.

1		CBP might be affected if the ATSI zone were not included in the May 2010 BRA,
2		if integration issues were still being disputed by the time the first CBP auction
3		was scheduled in June of 2010, or if, following the CBP auctions in June or
4		October of 2010, the scheduled integration completion date is delayed past June 1
5		2011. Instead, the discussion in the Companies' filing in this regard is limited to
6		the following statement:
7		If the PJM transition is delayed or not approved, bidders will obtain
8		capacity necessary to meet MISO requirements in the same manner
9		as bidders did in the May 2009 Auction. ⁹
10		
11	Q17:	WOULD BIDDERS IN THE JUNE 2010 CBP AUCTION FACE INCREASED
11	Q17:	WOULD BIDDERS IN THE JUNE 2010 CBP AUCTION FACE INCREASED RISK IF DISPUTES OVER THE INTEGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN
	Q17:	
12	Q17:	RISK IF DISPUTES OVER THE INTEGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN
12 13	~	RISK IF DISPUTES OVER THE INTEGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED BY THEN?
12 13 14	~	RISK IF DISPUTES OVER THE INTEGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED BY THEN? Yes. In this situation, there would be continuing uncertainty regarding whether
12 13 14 15	~	RISK IF DISPUTES OVER THE INTEGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED BY THEN? Yes. In this situation, there would be continuing uncertainty regarding whether and when the integration would be consummated, and thus uncertainty as to
12 13 14 15 16	~	RISK IF DISPUTES OVER THE INTEGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED BY THEN? Yes. In this situation, there would be continuing uncertainty regarding whether and when the integration would be consummated, and thus uncertainty as to whether SSO load would be met using PJM or MISO wholesale products. Faced
12 13 14 15 16	~	RISK IF DISPUTES OVER THE INTEGRATION HAVE NOT BEEN RESOLVED BY THEN? Yes. In this situation, there would be continuing uncertainty regarding whether and when the integration would be consummated, and thus uncertainty as to whether SSO load would be met using PJM or MISO wholesale products. Faced with such uncertainty, a winning bidder in the June 2010 CBP auction might

 $^{^9}$ PUCO Case No. 09-906-EL-SSO, Application, October 20, 2009, \P 35.

1		interim. ¹⁰ In either case, bidders in the June 2010 CBP auction would be faced
2		with cost risk due to uncertainty around the expected integration date and would
3		likely increase offer prices to hedge such risk. 11
4		
5	Q18:	HOW MIGHT THE COMPANIES MITIGATE THIS RISK?
6	A18:	One straightforward option would be to delay the schedule for the transition
7		capacity auctions and the first two CBP auctions until such disputes are resolved
8		and there is greater certainty regarding whether and when the integration will be
9		completed. Moreover, as discussed at greater length by OCC witness James
10		Wilson, the Companies and PJM could hold off on including the ATSI zone in the
11		BRA for the 2013 planning year and instead conduct a third transition auction for
12		that planning year at a later time.
13		
14	Q19:	DO BIDDERS FACE OTHER RISKS AS A RESULT OF THE COMPANIES'
15		MIGRATION TO PJM?
16	A19:	Yes. At least in the first two CBP auctions in June and October of 2010,
17		bidders may also bear risks associated with uncertainties regarding the
18		impact of the migration on PJM system performance or market prices.

¹⁰ Bidders would not have the option to delay purchasing capacity, since capacity would already have effectively been purchased on their behalf by FirstEnergy Ohio in the transition auctions and by PJM in the Base Residual Auction.

¹¹ More precisely, in a declining-price clock auction, bidders would likely increase their estimates of the minimum clock price below which they would be unwilling to offer to supply an SSO load tranche.

1	By the time the first two CBP auctions are run, neither PJM nor FirstEnergy Ohio
2	will have any operational experience or market data for a PJM system that
3	includes the ATSI zone. 12 Until the PJM markets actually operate and clear with
4	the ATSI zone as part of the PJM control area, there will be little or no market
5	information regarding the impact of ATSI integration on a number of operating
6	and cost parameters, including:
7	Day-ahead and real-time system locational marginal prices.
8	Marginal losses.
9	• Zonal congestion costs.
10	ARR allocations and zonal ARR revenues.
11	• FTR auction-clearing prices and paths.
12	Regulation, synchronized-reserve, and operating-reserve prices.
13	
14	In other words, bidders in the first two CBP auctions would lack essential data for
15	forecasting the costs of wholesale market products in a post-integration PJM. 13
16	The lack of historical data will increase uncertainty around those forecasts,

¹² As part of the proposed integration plan, PJM will conduct market trials for both the day-ahead and real-time energy markets. These market trials may provide bidders with relevant market data. However, under the current implementation schedule for the integration plan, the trials will not be conducted until after the first two CBP auctions are completed. See FERC Docket No. ER09-1589-000, Application, Exhibit 1, Schedule 3.2.5.

¹³ Bidders would likely rely on historical data to develop expected values and probability distributions for key inputs to their forecast models, as well as to benchmark the output results of their forecast modeling.

1		increase bidders' perception of cost risk in their pricing of SSO supply, and thus
2		likely increase risk premiums in offer prices.
3		
4	Q20:	WOULD YOU EXPECT THESE RISKS TO DIMINISH OVER TIME?
5	A20:	By definition, this "pre-integration risk" is a transitory phenomenon; it should
6		diminish as experience is gained with operating the integrated PJM market and as
7		the database of market data grows over time. As such, to the extent that this risk
8		affects auction prices, I would expect that this impact would be material only in
9		the first two CBP auctions.
0		
1	Q21:	DO YOU RECOMMEND MODIFYING THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING
12		PROCESS FOR THE FIRST TWO AUCTIONS IN 2010 IN LIGHT OF YOUR
13		FINDINGS ON PRE-INTEGRATION RISK?
14	A21:	Yes. For the first two CBP auctions conducted prior to the integration of
15		FirstEnergy Ohio with PJM, I recommend that the Companies solicit only 12-
16		month full-requirements contracts, rather than a mix of 12-, 24-, and 36-month
17		contracts.
18		
19		While it may be appropriate to buy three years forward in subsequent auction
20		cycles, this is probably not the case for the first two auctions prior to integration
21		with PJM. If offer prices in the first two auctions reflect premiums for pre-
22		integration risk, then, under the Companies proposal, these premiums would be
23		locked in for up to three years. Instead, the Companies could simply procure 12-

1 month supply to serve SSO load in the 2011 planning year in these first two auctions, and then solicit longer-term contracts to serve load starting in the 2012 2 planning year in subsequent auctions. Under this alternative approach, ratepayers 3 might still be exposed to a pre-integration risk premium for one year, since the 12-4 month contracts for the 2011 planning year would have been acquired prior to 5 integration. ¹⁴ However, unlike under the Company's approach, supply for 6 subsequent planning years would be acquired after integration, at which point pre-7 integration risk and thus risk premiums would likely have diminished. 8 9 DO YOU SUPPORT THE COMPANY'S PROPOSAL TO SOLICIT 36-10 *O22:* **MONTH CONTRACTS IN SUBSEQUENT AUCTION CYCLES?** 11 As I note above, it may be appropriate to buy full-requirements supply three years A22: 12 forward in auction cycles other than the cycle preceding the merger of ATSI with 13 PJM. However, for these post-integration auction cycles, it may be preferable to 14 buy three years forward using sequential 12-month contracts, rather than a single 15 36-month contract. 16 17 Under this alternative approach to buying three years forward, the Companies 18 would solicit three types of 12-month contracts with terms that span the next three 19 planning years. For example, in the CBP auction for SSO supply starting in June 20 of 2012, the Companies would solicit three 12-month products for delivery in 21

¹⁴ There is no avoiding this exposure. Since the current SSO supply contracts expire in May of 2011, the Companies must purchase SSO supply for delivery starting in June of 2011 prior to the integration date.

June of 2012, 2013, and 2014, respectively. The CBP auction would then be 1 conducted in the same fashion as proposed by the Company, except in this case 2 bidders would be offering planning-year 2012, 2013, or 2014 contracts, rather a 3 single 36-month contract that spans the same three-year time period. As with the 4 multi-product solicitations proposed by the Company for the first two CBP 5 auctions, under this alternative approach, bidders in each round would be able to 6 adjust their offers for each product, and switch among products, in response to the 7 8 different clock prices for the three 12-month products. 9 WHAT ARE SOME OF THE ADVANTAGES OF THIS ALTERNATIVE 10 *O23:* APPROACH TO BUYING THREE YEARS FORWARD? 11 This approach offers bidders the flexibility to bid for individual planning years, or 12 A23: any combination of individual planning years, at prices specific to each planning 13 year. Allowing bidders to respond to individual prices promotes price 14 transparency, in the sense that it reveals bidders' expectations regarding market 15 prices and costs to serve SSO load in each year. In contrast, bidding on 36-month 16 contracts would reveal bidders' average expectations for all three planning years. 17 18 In addition, soliciting sequential 12-month contracts rather than 36-month 19 contracts may promote more robust participation and reduce costs to serve SSO 20 load over the three planning years. Under the Companies' proposed approach, 21 only those bidders willing to supply SSO load for all three planning years would 22 participate in the auction. In this case, the auction clearing price would reflect the 23

supply cost for those bidders that can most efficiently serve SSO load for all three planning years. Under the alternative approach, the pool of potential bidders would expand to include bidders who are capable of serving load in one or two planning years, and who might be able to serve load in those particular years at a lower cost than the bidders in the narrower pool of bidders willing to serve load in all three years. 15

Finally, this alternative approach would provide the Commission greater flexibility in its final selection of winning offers. For example, if auction-clearing prices for the second and third planning years appear to be above market or otherwise unfavorable, the Commission would have the option under this alternative approach to approve just those 12-month contracts required to meet SSO load requirements for the upcoming planning year. Under the Companies' approach, however, Commission rejection of 36-month contracts would leave the Companies short of their SSO load requirement for the next planning year, potentially forcing the Companies into the volatile PJM or MISO spot markets to fill the gap.

Q24: PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

¹⁵ This has been the experience with the procurement process in Connecticut, which allows bidders to offer prices for individual years and for combinations of individual years. In these procurements, the lowest-cost individual-year offers have often been less expensive than the lowest-cost combination offers for those same years.

The proposed integration of FirstEnergy Ohio with PJM poses increased price risk 1 A24: for bidders in the two CBP auctions conducted prior to integration. These risks 2 arise in part because there will be little or no data regarding the impact of the 3 migration on PJM system performance or market prices for some time after the 4 integration is completed. Bidders may also face risks to the extent that there is 5 uncertainty around the expected date for completing the integration. 6 7 In order to address the risk associated with the lack of market information, I 8 recommend that the Companies solicit only 12-month full-requirements contracts 9 in the first two CBP auctions, rather than a mix of 12-, 24-, and 36-month 10 contracts. By doing so, the Companies would be able to avoid locking in for more 11 than a year any price premiums associated with pre-integration risk. For 12 subsequent auction cycles, I recommend that the Companies solicit sequential 12-13 month contracts, rather than single multi-year contracts, in order to improve price 14 15 transparency and reduce costs to consumers. 16 One option for addressing the risk associated with uncertainty around the 17 expected integration date would be to delay the schedule for the transition 18 capacity auctions and the first two CBP auctions to a point in time closer to the 19 expected integration date. This delay would allow time for any ongoing litigation 20 or disputes over the integration process to be resolved, and would therefore 21 provide greater certainty to bidders in the first two CBP auctions as to whether 22 and when the integration would be completed. 23

- 1 Q25: DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?
- 2 A25: Yes.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

It is hereby certified that a true copy of the foregoing the *Direct Testimony of Jonathan F. Wallach on Behalf of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel* has been served electronically this 7th day of December, 2009.

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SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Vice President, Resource Insight, Inc. Provides research, technical assistance, and expert testimony on electric- and gas-utility planning, economics, regulation, and restructuring. Designs and assesses resource-planning strategies for regulated and competitive markets, including estimation of market prices and utility-plant stranded investment; negotiates restructuring strategies and implementation plans; assists in procurement of retail power supply.

- 1989–90 Senior Analyst, Komanoff Energy Associates. Conducted comprehensive costbenefit assessments of electric-utility power-supply and demand-side conservation resources, economic and financial analyses of independent power facilities, and analyses of utility-system excess capacity and reliability. Provided expert testimony on statistical analysis of U.S. nuclear plant operating costs and performance. Co-wrote *The Power Analyst*, software developed under contract to the New York Energy Research and Development Authority for screening the economic and financial performance of non-utility power projects.
- 1987–88 **Independent Consultant.** Provided consulting services for Komanoff Energy Associates (New York, New York), Schlissel Engineering Associates (Belmont, Massachusetts), and Energy Systems Research Group (Boston, Massachusetts).
- 1981–86 Research Associate, Energy Systems Research Group. Performed analyses of electric utility power supply planning scenarios. Involved in analysis and design of electric and water utility conservation programs. Developed statistical analysis of U.S. nuclear plant operating costs and performance.

EDUCATION

BA, Political Science with honors and Phi Beta Kappa, University of California, Berkeley, 1980.

PUBLICATIONS

"The Future of Utility Resource Planning: Delivering Energy Efficiency through Distributed Utilities" (with Paul Chernick), *International Association for Energy Economics Seventeenth Annual North American Conference* (460–469). Cleveland, Ohio: USAEE, 1996.

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"Reflecting Market Expectations in Estimates of Stranded Costs," speaker, and workshop moderator of "Effectively Valuing Assets and Calculating Stranded Costs." Conference sponsored by International Business Communications, Washington, D.C., June 1997.

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Mass. DPU on behalf of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy Resources. Docket No. 89-100. Joint testimony with Paul Chernick relating to statistical analysis of U.S. nuclear-plant capacity factors, operation and maintenance costs, and capital additions; and to projections of capacity factor, O&M, and capital additions for the Pilgrim nuclear plant.

- NY PSC on behalf of the Pace Energy Project, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Citizen's Advisory Panel. Case No. 93-E-1123. Joint testimony with John Plunkett critiques proposed modifications to Long Island Lighting Company's DSM programs from the perspective of least-cost-planning principles.
- Vt. PSB on behalf of the Vermont Department of Public Service. Docket No. 5270-CV-1 and 5270-CV-3. Testimony and rebuttal testimony discusses rate and bill effects from DSM spending and sponsors load shapes for measure- and program-screening analyses.
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Purpose of capacity-adequacy requirements. PJM capacity rules and practices. Implications of various restructuring proposals for system reliability.

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Cost allocation and rate design. Revenue decoupling mechanism.

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