IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

| In re: |) Chapter 11 |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC., |) Case No. 22-50804 |
| Debtor. ¹ |) Judge C. Kathryn Preston |
| |) |

APPLICATION BY VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES INC. FOR ENTRY OF AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF ISAAC WILES & BURKHOLDER LL AS LOCAL COUNSEL TO THE DEBTOR AND DEBTOR IN POSSESSION EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc., as debtor and debtor in possession (the "Debtor") in the above-captioned chapter 11 case (the "Chapter 11 Case"), hereby files this application (the "Application"), pursuant to section 327(a) of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rule 2014 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rule 2014-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio (the "Local Rules"), for entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Proposed Order"), authorizing the Debtor to employ and retain Isaac Wiles & Burkholder LLC ("IW") as its attorneys in the capacity as local counsel ("Local Counsel") to work in cooperation and in conjunction with McDermott Will & Emery LLP ("McDermott") who will be employed as lead counsel ("Lead Counsel") for the Debtor, effective as of the Petition Date (as defined below). In support of the Application, the Debtor relies on the Declaration of David M. Whittaker in Support of the Application for Entry of Order

The last four digits of the Debtor's federal tax identification are (2693), and the address of the Debtor's corporate headquarters is 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington, Ohio 43147.

Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Isaac Wiles & Burkholder LLC as Local Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor in Possession Effective as of the Petition Date (the "Whittaker Declaration"), a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**, and respectfully represents as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Ohio (the "Court") has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the Standing Order of Reference entered in this District. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b).
 - 2. Venue is proper before the Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 3. The bases for the relief sought herein are Bankruptcy Code section 327(a),
 Bankruptcy Rule 2014, Local Rule 2014-1, and *General Order No. 30-4* (the "General Order"),
 entered by the Court on February 24, 2021, which implemented and made effective the
 Procedures for Complex Chapter 11 Cases (the "Complex 11 Procedures") attached thereto.

BACKGROUND

- 4. The Debtor is a supplier of retail electricity and natural gas to commercial, industrial, and residential customers across Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky. The Debtor currently has approximately 220,000 customers, many of whom are individuals participating in municipal aggregation arrangements that the Debtor has with various municipalities located in those states.
- 5. On March 25, 2022 (the "<u>Petition Date</u>"), the Debtor commenced the Chapter 11 Case by filing a petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 6. The Debtor is continuing to operate its business and manage its property as a debtor in possession pursuant to Bankruptcy Code sections 1107(a) and 1108 and is also pursuing transition of customers and the possible wind down of its business operations.
- 7. No trustee, or examiner has been appointed in the Chapter 11 Case. The US Trustee appointed a creditors' committee on April 1, 2022 (Doc. No. 83). No other official committee has been appointed in the Chapter 11 Case.
- 8. Additional information regarding the Debtor's business operations, capital structure, and the circumstances leading to the chapter 11 filing is set forth in the Declaration of David Warner in Support of the Chapter 11 Petition and First Day Pleadings (the "<u>First Day Declaration</u>") (Doc. 26), which is incorporated herein by reference.

RELIEF REQUESTED

9. By the Application, the Debtor seeks entry of an order, substantially in the form of the Proposed Order attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, authorizing the employment and retention of IW as the Debtor's attorneys in the capacity of Local Counsel, effective as of the Petition Date.

STANDARD FOR RETENTION

10. A debtor in possession, subject to court approval:

[M]ay employ one or more attorneys, accountants, appraisers, auctioneers, or other professional persons, that do not hold or represent an interest adverse to the estate, and that are disinterested persons, to represent or assist the trustee in carrying out the trustee's [or debtor in possession's] duties under this title.

11 U.S.C. § 327(a). Importantly, a professional person "is not disqualified for employment under section 327 of [the Bankruptcy Code] by a debtor in possession solely because of such person's

employment by or representation of the debtor before the commencement of the case." 11 U.S.C. § 1107(b).

- 11. Bankruptcy Rule 2014 and Local Rule 2014-1 set forth the requirements for an application seeking authority to employ a professional under section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code. In any such application, the applicant must:
 - a. show that the employment is necessary and describe the reasons for selecting the professional, Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2014(a);
 - b. describe the professional services to be rendered, id.;
 - c. describe the proposed arrangement for compensation of the professional, id.;
 - d. disclose any connections of the professional to the debtor, creditors, any other party in interest, their respective attorneys and accountants, the United States Trustee, or any person employed in the office of the United States Trustee, *id.*;
 - e. disclose the professional's customary and proposed hourly rates, LBR 2014-1(b)(1);
 - f. disclose the amount, date paid, and source of any fees paid to the professional from a period of one (1) year prior to the filing of the petition through the time of the application, LBR 2014-1(b)(2)
 - g. disclose the amount, date paid, and source of any retainer sought or received by the professional within such period, LBR 2014-1(b)(3).
- 12. In addition to the above, the application must also be accompanied by an affidavit or verified statement of the person to be employed:
 - a. setting forth the professional's connections with the debtor, the trustee, any creditors, any equity security holder of the debtor, any other party in interest, their respective attorneys and accountants, the United States Trustee, and any person employed in the office of the United States Trustee, Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2014; LBR 2014-1(c)(1);
 - b. establishing the lack of any adverse interest to the estate, LBR 2014-1(c)(2); and
 - c. establishing that the proposed employment is not prohibited by or improper under Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 5002, LBR 2014-1(c)(3).

BASIS FOR RETENTION

- 13. IW's representation of the Debtor began in June 2021, when the Debtor retained IW with respect to certain business matters. IW subsequently represented the Debtor with respect to negotiating certain loan modifications, extensions, and forbearance agreements with the Debtor's lead secured lender PNC National Association ("PNC"). IW also represented the Debtor with respect to a claim asserted by a creditor that culminated in the filing of a lawsuit against the Debtor, and in consideration of alternatives regarding the Debtor's financial circumstances and preparation for the filing of the Chapter 11 Case.
- 14. The Debtor selected IW as its Local Counsel for the Chapter 11 Case because of IW's experience with and knowledge of the Debtor' business and because of IW' knowledge of and experience with debtors' and creditors' rights and business reorganization under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor believes that David Whittaker, who will serve as the lead Local Counsel for the Debtor, is experienced and qualified to represent the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case and to work in cooperation with McDermott. Mr. Whittaker has represented debtors, creditors, trustees, and other parties in bankruptcy cases for more than 42 years both in this Court and in other bankruptcy courts throughout the country. Among other engagements, he has served as an examiner in a Chapter 11 case and as a trustee of a trust created by a confirmed plan in a Chapter 11 case. Mr. Whittaker has served as local counsel assisting national law firms in a broad range of bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy litigation and contested matters. Mr. Whittaker has also been lead counsel for matters in the Bankruptcy Courts in the District of Delaware and the Southern District of New York and has affiliated with local counsel in both of those courts. Mr. Whittaker understands fully the relationships between lead counsel and local counsel. Mr. Whittaker's insolvency work and his non-insolvency practice have both been primarily focused

on business and commercial matters for several decades. Mr. Whittaker is one of the most experienced and knowledgeable debtor-creditor and bankruptcy attorneys in Central Ohio. Philip Stovall will assist in managing the Local Counsel duties for the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case. Mr. Stovall is a former judicial law clerk with several years of private practice experience in debtor- creditor and bankruptcy matters. Mr. Stovall has worked with Mr. Whittaker for more than 2 years.

- 15. The Debtor believes that IW not only has the knowledge and experience necessary to deal effectively with the issues that will arise in the Chapter 11 Case, but also that IW will work effectively with McDermott to provide prompt and cost-effective representation of the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case.
- 16. The Debtor believes that the employment of IW as Local Counsel in the Chapter11 is in the best interests of the Debtor and of the bankruptcy estate.

SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

- 17. Subject to further order of the Court and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Bankruptcy Rules, and the complex Chapter 11 procedures ("Complex Chapter 11 Procedures") adopted by General Order 30-4 ("General Order") entered in this District, the Debtor requests the retention and employment of IW to provide the following legal services, either independently or in conjunction with McDermott as may be directed by the Debtor:
 - a. advising the Debtor with respect to its powers and duties as a debtor in possession in the continued management and operation of its business and properties;
 - b. advising and consulting on the conduct of the Chapter 11 Case, including all of the legal and administrative requirements of operating in chapter 11;

- c. attending meetings and negotiating with representatives of the Debtor's creditors, creditors committee, the US Trustee, and other parties in interest;
- d. taking all necessary actions to protect and preserve the Debtor's estate, including prosecuting actions on the Debtor's behalf, defending any action commenced against the Debtor, and representing the Debtor in negotiations concerning litigation in which the Debtor is involved, including objections to claims filed against the Debtor's estate;
- e. preparing pleadings in connection with the Chapter 11 Case, including motions, applications, answers, orders, reports, and papers necessary or otherwise beneficial to the administration of the Debtor's estate;
- f. advising the Debtor in connection with any potential sale of assets;
- g. appearing before the Court and any appellate courts to represent the interests of the Debtor's estate;
- h. advising the Debtor regarding insurance matters;
- i. taking any necessary action on behalf of the Debtor to negotiate, prepare, and obtain approval of a disclosure statement and confirmation of a chapter 11 plan and all documents related thereto; and
- j. performing all other necessary legal services for the Debtor in connection with the prosecution of the Chapter 11 Case, including: (i) analyzing the Debtor's leases and contracts and the assumption and assignment or rejection thereof; (ii) analyzing the validity of liens against the Debtor's assets; and (iii) advising the Debtor on corporate and litigation matters.

PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION

18. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, the Complex 11 Procedures will govern the payment and application process for the professional fees and expenses of IW regarding its representation of the Debtor. Subject to the terms and requirements set forth in the Complex 11 Procedures, IW will be entitled to the provisional payment of 90% of the undisputed fees and 100% of the undisputed expenses identified on each Monthly Statement (as such term is defined in the Complex 11 Procedures), prior to entry of an interim or final order allowing or awarding McDermott such fees and expenses. IW will make timely applications ("Fee Application") to the Court for allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses in accordance with the

Complex 11 Procedures and any orders of the Court, and all such applications will comply with the requirements of the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and any orders of this Court.

19. The names, positions, and applicable hourly rates of the IW attorneys currently expected to have primary responsibility for providing services to the Debtor are as follows:

| Attorney | Position / Department | Hourly Rate |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| David M. Whittaker | Partner / Business – Bankruptcy & | \$500 |
| | Creditor Rights | |
| Philip K. Stovall | Associate / Business – Bankruptcy | \$350 |
| - | & Creditor Rights | |

20. Additionally, other IW professionals and paraprofessionals may provide services to the Debtor in connection with this Chapter 11 Case. The current hourly rate ranges for other IW professionals and paraprofessionals are as follows:

| U.S. Range | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| \$350 - \$500 | |
| \$175 - \$350 | |
| \$75 - \$125 | |
| | \$350 - \$500 \$175 - \$350 |

21. IW's hourly rates are set at a level designed to compensate IW fairly for the work of its attorneys and paraprofessionals and to cover fixed and routine expenses. Hourly rates vary with the experience and seniority of the individuals. These hourly rates are subject to periodic adjustments to reflect economic and other conditions. No proposed change of the rates charged will be made by IW during the Chapter 11 Case without IW first giving 30 days prior notice to the parties who will receive Monthly Statements in the Chapter 11 Case. IW will maintain records in support of its fees in one-tenth of an hour increments, and such records will be

arranged by category and nature of the services rendered and will include reasonably detailed descriptions of services provided.

- 22. It is IW's policy to charge its clients in all areas of practice for identifiable, nonoverhead expenses incurred in connection with the client's case that would not have been
 incurred except for representation of that client. It is also IW's policy to charge its clients only
 the amount actually incurred by IW in connection with such items. Examples of such expenses
 include postage, overnight mail, courier delivery, transportation, computer-assisted legal
 research, and photocopying. IW will itemize all expenses by category in any Monthly Statement
 or Fee Application.
- 23. Since the Debtor's retention of IW, IW received the following payments (including retainers) from the Debtor identified by project:

A. GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS –

October 25, 2021, \$ 1,500.78

B. LOGICAL COMMUNICATION DISPUTE/LITIGATION -

January 5, 2022, \$3,017.80

January 12, 2022, \$ 1,948.50

January 31, 2022, \$ 175.00

C. LOAN FORBEARANCE –

August 6, 2021, \$2,738.00

August 6, 2021, \$17,976.70

August 26, 2021, \$ 3,802.75

September 9, 2021, \$3,155.50

October 11, 2021, \$11,379.20

November 21, 2021, \$ 7,049.70

December 15, 2021, \$ 907.50

January 31, 2022, \$ 1287.00

D. RETAINERS FOR SERVICES REGARDING THE CHAPTER 11 –

March 7, 2022, \$75,000.00

March 25, 2022² \$25,000.00

E. PAYMENTS FROM THE RETAINERS –

March 23, 2022, \$65,000.00

March 25, 2022³ \$ 7,500.00

F. RETAINER BALANCE AS OF THE PETIITION -

As of the Petition Date, the sum of \$27,500.00 remained on deposit in IW's trust account as and for a retainer balance. As of the Petition Date, IW was not owed any amounts from the Debtor for professional fees or reimbursable expenses.

DISINTERESTEDNESS

24. To the best of the Debtor's knowledge and in reliance on the Whittaker Declaration, and except as otherwise set forth in the Application and in the Whittaker Declaration, IW (a) has no connection with the Debtor, its creditors, any equity holder of the Debtor, any other party in interest, the attorneys or accountants, financial advisors or other professionals of any of the foregoing, or the U.S. Trustee⁴ or any person employed in the Office of the U.S. Trustee in this District; (b) is not, and was not within 2 years before the Petition Date, a director, officer, or employee of the Debtor; (c) does not hold any interest adverse to the

² Received by wire transfer prior to the filing of the Petition.

³ Funds transferred prior to the filing of the Petition

⁴ David Whittaker has been a member of the panel of Chapter 7 Trustees for the Southern District of Ohio in Columbus since May of 1983. Mr. Whittaker is not an employee of the US Trustee. His status as a Chapter 7 Trustee does not prevent him or IW from being disinterested

Debtor's estate; and (d) believes that it is a "disinterested person," as such term is defined by section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 25. Further, as set forth in the Whittaker Declaration, no partner, associate or employee of IW is related to or connected with any judge of this Court, any judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, or the U.S. Trustee for the region serving this District, such that the Debtor's employment of IW would be improper under Bankruptcy Rule 5002.
- 26. IW has advised the Debtor that IW has in the past represented, and/or is currently representing and/or may in the future represent certain parties that are either counterparties to aggregation contracts or other contracts with the Debtor and/or who may have claims against the Debtor (collectively the "Potentially Adverse Parties"). IW has advised the Debtor that the Potentially Adverse Parties known to IW are:

City of Wilmington

Orange Township

Village of Shawnee Hills

Village of Ashville

Village of Greenfield.

27. IW has advised the Debtor that IW has not in the past represented any of the Potentially Adverse Parties in any matter or issue related to the Debtor or in any representation adverse to the Debtor. IW has further advised the Debtor that IW will not represent any of the Potentially Adverse Parties with respect to the Chapter 11 Case unless IW receives a specific waiver of any conflict of interest from the Potentially Adverse Party. If any of the Potentially Adverse Parties files any application, motion, adversary proceeding, or other contested matter

(collectively a "Potentially Adverse Party Contested Matter") in the Chapter 11 Case or if the Debtor initiates a Potentially Adverse Party Contested Mater in the Chapter 11 Case, then unless IW receives a specific waiver of any conflict of interest from the Potentially Adverse Party, the rights and interests of the Debtor with respect to the Potentially Adverse Party Contested Matter will be represented by McDermott, and IW will not advise or represent the Debtor with respect to the Potentially Adverse Party Contested Matter.

28. IW has further informed the Debtor that, throughout the Chapter 11 Case, IW will continue to review its files, including any new clients or relationships, to ensure that no conflicts or other disqualifying circumstances exist or arise. If any new relevant facts or relationships are discovered or arise, IW will use reasonable efforts to identify such further developments and will promptly file a supplemental declaration, as required by Bankruptcy Rule 2014(a) and Local Rule 2014-1. If IW becomes aware of any actual conflict and if IW is not able to obtain a waiver of the conflict of interest, then McDermott will be solely responsible for representing the Debtor with respect to such matter.

MOTION PRACTICE

29. This Application includes citations to the applicable rules and statutory authorities upon which the relief requested herein is predicated and a discussion of their application to this Application. Accordingly, the Debtor submits that this Application satisfies Local Rule 9013-1(a).

NOTICE

30. The Debtor will provide notice of the Motion to: (a) the United States Trustee; (b) counsel to PNC Bank, National Association; (c) the holders of the 20 largest unsecured claims against the Debtor; (d) all official committees appointed, as of the filing of this Application, in the Chapter 11 Case and their counsel; (e) the offices of the attorneys general for Ohio,

Pennsylvania, Michigan, Kentucky, and West Virginia; (f) the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio; (g) the Internal Revenue Service; (h) the state taxing authorities of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Kentucky, and West Virginia; (i) the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission, Kentucky Public Service Commission, and Michigan Public Service Commission; (j) the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; (k) the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and (l) any party that has requested notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. The Debtor submits that, considering the nature of the relief requested, no other or further notice is required.

NO PRIOR REQUEST

31. No prior application for the relief requested herein has been made to this or any other court.

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WHEREFORE, the Debtor respectfully requests that the Court enter an order, substantially in the form of the Proposed Order attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, authorizing the Debtor to employ and retain IW as its attorneys in the capacity as Local Counsel effective as of the Petition Date, and granting such other relief as the Court deems appropriate.

Dated: April 4, 2022

Columbus, Ohio /s/ David Warner

David Warner

Chief Financial Officer

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.

Prepared by:

/s/ David M. Whittaker

David M. Whittaker (0019307) Philip K. Stovall (0090916)

ISAAC WILES & BURKHOLDER, LLC

Two Miranova Place, Suite 700 Columbus, Ohio 43215-5098

Tel: (614) 221-2121 Fax: (614) 365-9516

Email dwhittaker@isaacwiles.com

pstovall@isaacwiles.com

and

Darren Azman (admitted *pro hac vice*) Natalie Rowles (admitted *pro hac vice*) **MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP**

One Vanderbilt Avenue

New York, New York 10017-3852

Tel: (212) 547-5400 Fax: (212) 547-5444 Email dazman@mwe.com nrowles@mwe.com

Proposed Counsel to the Debtor

Exhibit A

Proposed Order

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

| |) | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| In re: |) | Chapter 11 |
| |) | |
| VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC., |) | Case No. 22-55084 |
| |) | |
| Debtor. ¹ |) | Judge C. Kathryn Preston |
| |) | |
| |) | |

ORDER AUTHORIZING VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES INC. TO RETAIN AND EMPLOY ISAAC WILES & BURKHOLDER LL AS LOCAL COUNSEL TO THE DEBTOR AND DEBTOR IN POSSESSION EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE [RELATED TO DOCKET NO. [

Upon the application (the "<u>Application</u>", Doc. No. ____)² of Volunteer Energy Services Inc (the "Debtor") for entry of an order, pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 327(a),

Bankruptcy Rule 2014, and Local Rule 2014-1, authorizing the Debtor to retain and employ

Isaac Wiles & Burkholder LLC ("<u>IW</u>"), as Local Counsel to the Debtor effective as of the

The last four digits of the Debtor's federal tax identification are (2693), and the address of the Debtor's corporate headquarters is 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington, Ohio 43147.

² Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Application.

Petition Date; and upon consideration of the Whittaker Declaration in support of the Application and the First Day Declaration; and the Court being satisfied that IW is a "disinterested person" as such term is defined under section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code; and this Court having jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334 and the Standing Order of Reference entered in this District; and the matter being a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2); and venue of this proceeding and the Application being proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and adequate notice of the Application having been given; and it appearing that no other or further notice is necessary; and it appearing that the relief requested in the Application is in the best interests of the Debtor, its estate, creditors, and other parties in interest; and after due deliberation thereon; and good and sufficient cause appearing therefor; it is hereby

ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

- 1. The Application is granted as set forth herein.
- 2. Pursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 327(a), the Debtor is authorized to retain and employ IW as its attorneys in the capacity as Local Counsel in the Chapter 11 Case effective as of the Petition Date.
- 3. The *Procedures for Complex Chapter 11 Cases* (the "Complex 11 Procedures") implemented and made effective by *General Order No. 30-4*, entered by the Court on February 24, 2021, shall govern the payment and application process for the professional fees and expenses billed by IW. Subject to the terms and requirements set forth in the Complex 11 Procedures, IW shall be entitled to the provisional payment of 90% of the undisputed fees and 100% of the undisputed expenses identified on each Monthly Statement (as such term is defined in the Complex 11 Procedures), prior to entry of an interim or final order allowing or awarding

Case 2:22-bk-50804 Doc 107 Filed 04/05/22 Entered 04/05/22 11:38:57

Page 18 of 40 Document

IW such fees and expenses. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, all

parties in interest shall have the right to object to IW's interim and final applications for

compensation and reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses based on the reasonableness

standard set forth in Bankruptcy Code section 330.

4. IW shall make timely applications ("Fee Application") to the Court for allowance

of compensation and reimbursement of expenses in accordance with the Complex 11 Procedures

and any orders of the Court, and all such applications will comply with the requirements of the

applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and any

orders of this Court.

5. The Debtor and IW are authorized to take all actions necessary to effectuate the

relief granted pursuant to this Order.

6. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to hear and determine all matters arising from

or related to the implementation, interpretation, and/or enforcement of this Order.

SO ORDERED.

Copies to: Default List

3

Exhibit B

Whittaker Declaration

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

| |) | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| In re: |) | Chapter 11 |
| VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES, INC., |) | Case No. 22-50804 |
| Debtor. ¹ |) | Judge C. Kathryn Preston |
| |) | |

DECLARATION OF DAVID M. WHITTAKER IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION OF VOLUNTEER ENERGY SERVICES INC. FOR ENTRY OF ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF ISAAC WILES AND BURKHOLDER LLC AS LOCAL COUNSEL TO THE DEBTOR AND DEBTOR IN POSSESSION EFFECTIVE AS OF THE PETITION DATE

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, David M. Whittaker, declare under penalty of perjury that the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief:

- 7. I am a partner in the law firm of Isaac Wiles & Burkholder LLC ("<u>IW</u>"), which has an office at Two Miranova Place, Suite 700, Columbus OH 43215. I am a member in good standing of the Bar of the State of Ohio. There are no disciplinary proceedings pending against me.
- 8. I submit this declaration (the "<u>Declaration</u>") in support of the *Application for*Entry of Order Authorizing the Retention and Employment of Isaac Wiles & Burkholder LLC as

 Local Counsel to the Debtor and Debtor in Possession Effective as of the Petition Date (the "<u>Application</u>").² Except as otherwise noted, I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.

The last four digits of the Debtor's federal tax identification are (2693), and the address of the Debtor's corporate headquarters is 790 Windmiller Drive, Pickerington, Ohio 43147.

² Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meanings given to such terms in the Application.

QUALIFICATIONS

- 9. IW's representation of the Debtor began in June 2021, when the Debtor retained IW with respect to certain business matters. IW subsequently represented the Debtor with respect to the negotiation of loan modifications, extensions, and forbearance agreements with the Debtor's lead secured lender PNC National Association ("PNC"). IW also represented the Debtor with respect to a claim asserted by a creditor that culminated in the filing of a lawsuit against the Debtor, in consideration of strategic alternatives regarding the Debtor's financial circumstances and with respect to the filing of the Chapter 11 Case.
- 10. The Debtor selected IW as its Local Counsel for the Chapter 11 Case because of IW's experience with and knowledge of the Debtor' business and because of IW's knowledge of and experience with debtors' and creditors' rights and business reorganization under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. I will serve as the lead Local Counsel for the Debtor. I am very experienced and qualified to represent the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case and to work in cooperation with McDermott. I have represented debtors, creditors, trustees, and other parties in bankruptcy cases for more than 42 years both in this Court and in other bankruptcy courts throughout the country. Among other engagements, I have served as an examiner in a Chapter 11 case and as a trustee of a trust created by a confirmed plan in a Chapter 11 case. I have served as local counsel assisting national law firms in a broad range of bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy litigation and contested matters. I have also been lead counsel for matters in the Bankruptcy Courts in the District of Delaware and the Southern District of New York and have affiliated with local counsel in both of those courts. I understand fully the relationships between lead counsel and local counsel. My insolvency work and my non-insolvency practice have both been primarily focused on business and commercial matters for several decades. I am one of the most experienced and knowledgeable debtor-creditor and bankruptcy attorneys in Central Ohio. Philip

Stovall will assist in managing the Local Counsel duties for the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case.

Mr. Stovall is a former judicial law clerk with several years of private practice experience in debtor- creditor and bankruptcy matters. Mr. Stovall has worked with me for more than 2 years.

- 11. I believe that IW not only has the knowledge and experience necessary to deal effectively with the issues that will arise in the Chapter 11 Case, but also that IW will work effectively with McDermott to provide prompt and cost-effective representation of the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case.
- 12. I believe that the employment of IW as Local Counsel in the Chapter 11 is in the best interests of the Debtor and of the bankruptcy estate.

SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

- 13. Subject to further order of the Court and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Bankruptcy Rules, and the complex Chapter 11 procedures ("Complex Chapter 11 Procedures") adopted by General Order 30-4 ("General Order") entered in this District, IW will be retained and to provide the following legal services, either independently or in conjunction with McDermott as may be directed by the Debtor:
 - k. advising the Debtor with respect to its powers and duties as a debtor in possession in the continued management and operation of its business and properties;
 - 1. advising and consulting on the conduct of the Chapter 11 Case, including all of the legal and administrative requirements of operating in chapter 11;
 - m. attending meetings and negotiating with representatives of the Debtor's creditors, creditors committee, the US Trustee, and other parties in interest;
 - n. taking all necessary actions to protect and preserve the Debtor's estate, including prosecuting actions on the Debtor's behalf, defending any action

- commenced against the Debtor, and representing the Debtor in negotiations concerning litigation in which the Debtor is involved, including objections to claims filed against the Debtor's estate;
- o. preparing pleadings in connection with the Chapter 11 Case, including motions, applications, answers, orders, reports, and papers necessary or otherwise beneficial to the administration of the Debtor's estate;
- p. advising the Debtor in connection with any potential sale of assets;
- q. appearing before the Court and any appellate courts to represent the interests of the Debtor's estate;
- r. advising the Debtor regarding insurance matters;
- s. taking any necessary action on behalf of the Debtor to negotiate, prepare, and obtain approval of a disclosure statement and confirmation of a chapter 11 plan and all documents related thereto; and
- t. performing all other necessary legal services for the Debtor in connection with the prosecution of the Chapter 11 Case, including: (i) analyzing the Debtor's leases and contracts and the assumption and assignment or rejection thereof; (ii) analyzing the validity of liens against the Debtor's assets; and (iii) advising the Debtor on corporate and litigation matters.

PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION

14. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, IW proposes that the Complex 11 Procedures will govern the payment and application process for the professional fees and expenses of IW regarding its representation of the Debtor. Subject to the terms and requirements set forth in the Complex 11 Procedures, IW will be entitled to the provisional payment of 90% of the undisputed fees and 100% of the undisputed expenses identified on each Monthly Statement (as such term is defined in the Complex 11 Procedures), prior to entry of an interim or final order allowing or awarding McDermott such fees and expenses. IW will make timely applications ("Fee Application") to the Court for allowance of compensation and reimbursement of expenses in accordance with the Complex 11 Procedures and any orders of the Court, and all such

applications will comply with the requirements of the applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and any orders of this Court.

15. The names, positions, and applicable hourly rates of the IW attorneys currently expected to have primary responsibility for providing services to the Debtor are as follows:

| Attorney | Position / Department | Hourly Rate |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| David M. Whittaker | Partner / Business – Bankruptcy & | \$500 |
| | Creditor Rights | |
| Philip K. Stovall | Associate / Business – Bankruptcy | \$350 |
| - | & Creditor Rights | |

16. Additionally, other IW professionals and paraprofessionals may provide services to the Debtor in connection with this Chapter 11 Case. The current hourly rate ranges for other IW professionals and paraprofessionals are as follows:

| Billing Category | U.S. Range | |
|--|---------------|--|
| Partners | \$350 - \$500 | |
| Associates | \$175 - \$350 | |
| Paraprofessionals and Legal Assistants | \$75 - \$125 | |

17. IW's hourly rates are set at a level designed to compensate IW fairly for the work of its attorneys and paraprofessionals and to cover fixed and routine expenses. Hourly rates vary with the experience and seniority of the individuals. These hourly rates are subject to periodic adjustments to reflect economic and other conditions. No proposed change of the rates charged will be made by IW during the Chapter 11 Case without IW first giving 30 days prior notice to the parties who will receive Monthly Statements in the Chapter 11 Case. IW will maintain records in support of its fees in one-tenth of an hour increments, and such records will be

arranged by category and nature of the services rendered and will include reasonably detailed descriptions of services provided.

- 18. It is IW's policy to charge its clients in all areas of practice for identifiable, non-overhead expenses incurred in connection with the client's case that would not have been incurred except for representation of that client. It is also IW's policy to charge its clients only the amount actually incurred by McDermott in connection with such items. Examples of such expenses include postage, overnight mail, courier delivery, transportation, computer-assisted legal research, and photocopying. IW will itemize all expenses by category in any Monthly Fee Statement or Fee Application.
- 19. Since the Debtor's retention of IW, IW received the following payments (including retainers) from the Debtor identified by project:

A. GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS –

October 25, 2021, \$ 1,500.78

B. LOGICAL COMMUNICATION DISPUTE/LITIGATION -

January 5, 2022, \$3,017.80

January 12, 2022, \$ 1,948.50

January 31, 2022, \$ 175.00

C. LOAN FORBEARANCE –

August 6, 2021, \$2,738.00

August 6, 2021, \$17,976.70

August 26, 2021, \$ 3,802.75

September 9, 2021, \$3,155.50

October 11, 2021, \$11,379.20

November 21, 2021, \$ 7,049.70

December 15, 2021, \$ 907.50

January 31, 2022, \$ 1287.00

D. RETAINERS FOR SERVICES REGARDING THE CHAPTER 11 –

March 7, 2022, \$75,000.00

March 25, 2022³ \$25,000.00

E. PAYMENTS FROM THE RETAINERS –

March 23, 2022, \$65,000.00

March 25, 2022⁴ \$ 7,500.00

F. RETAINER BALANCE AS OF THE PETIITION -

As of the Petition Date, the sum of \$27,500.00 remained on deposit in IW's trust account as and for a retainer balance. As of the Petition Date, IW was not owed any amounts from the Debtor for professional fees or reimbursable expenses.

20. IW has neither shared nor agreed to share (a) any compensation it has received or may receive with another party or person, other than with the partners, associates, and employees of IW, or (b) any compensation another person or party has received or may receive.

DISINTERESTEDNESS

21. In connection with its proposed retention by the Debtor in the Chapter 11 Case, IW undertook to determine whether it had any conflicts or other relationships that might cause it not to be disinterested or to hold or represent an interest adverse to the Debtor. Specifically, IW obtained from the Debtor and its representatives the names of individuals and entities that may be parties in interest in the Chapter 11 Case (the "Potential Parties in Interest"), which parties are

³ Received by wire transfer prior to the filing of the Petition.

⁴ Funds transferred prior to the filing of the Petition

Case 2:22-bk-50804 Doc 107 Filed 04/05/22 Entered 04/05/22 11:38:57 Desc Main Document Page 27 of 40

listed on <u>Schedule 15</u> hereto. IW has searched its electronic database ("Conflicts Review") for its connections to the entities listed on <u>Schedule 1</u>. In addition, as a part of its Conflicts Review, an email was sent to all IW attorneys disclosing the Potential Parties in Interest to further determine if IW has or had any relationships with any of the Potential Parties in Interest. Based upon this Conflicts Review I have determined and have advised the Debtor that IW has represented in the past, and/or is currently representing and/or may in the future represent certain parties that are either counterparties to aggregation contracts or other contracts with the Debtor and/or who may have claims against the Debtor (collectively the "Potentially Adverse Parties"). IW has advised the Debtor that the Potentially Adverse Parties known to IW are:

City of Wilmington

Orange Township

Village of Shawnee Hills

Village of Ashville

Village of Greenfield.

22. IW has advised the Debtor that IW has not in the past represented any of the Potentially Adverse Parties in any matter or issue related to the Debtor or in any representation adverse to the Debtor. IW has further advised the Debtor that IW will not represent any of the Potentially Adverse Parties with respect to the Chapter 11 Case unless IW receives a specific waiver of any conflict of interest from the Potentially Adverse Party. If any of the Potentially Adverse Parties files any application motion, adversary proceeding, or other contested matter

The inclusion of parties in Schedule 1 is solely related to IW's Conflicts Review and is not an admission by IW or the Debtor that any party has a valid claim against the Debtor or that any party properly belongs in Schedule 1 or has a claim or legal relationship to the Debtor of the nature described in Schedule 1.

(collectively a Potentially Adverse Party Contested Matter") in the Chapter 11 Case or if the Debtor initiates a Potentially Adverse Party Contested Matter in the Chapter 11 Case, then unless IW receives a specific waiver of any conflict of interest from the Potentially Adverse Party, the rights and interests of the Debtor with respect to the Potentially Adverse Party Contested Matter will be represented by McDermott and IW will not advise or represent the Debtor with respect to the Potentially Adverse Party Contested Matter.

- 23. None of the Potentially Adverse Parties disclosed in the Application or in the Declaration represent more than one percent of IW's fee receipts for the twelve-month period ending on the Petition Date.
- 24. From time to time, IW's partners, associates, or employees may personally directly acquire equity security of a company which could include creditors, or other parties in interest in the Chapter 11 Case. In addition, IW partners, associates or employees may have an equity securing interest in a company that is a creditor or party in interest in the Chapter 11 Case through a mutual fund or other investment facility managed by others on behalf of the IW partner, associate, or employee. Although IW has not identified any equity security interest directly held by an IW partner, associate, or employee in any creditor or party in interest in the Chapter 11 Case, as a precaution to avoid improper trading, IW has a policy prohibiting attorneys and employees from using confidential information that may come to their attention in the course of their work and IW attorneys and employees are barred from trading in securities with respect to which they possess confidential information.

AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENT OF DISINTERESTEDNESS

25. Based on the Conflicts Review conducted to date and described herein, to the best of my knowledge and insofar as I have been able to ascertain, other than disclosed in the Application and in this Declaration, IW (a) has no connection with the Debtor, its creditors, any

equity holder of the Debtor, any other party in interest, the attorneys or accountants, financial advisors or other professionals of any of the foregoing, or the US Trustee⁶ or any person employed in the Office of the U.S. Trustee in this District; (b) is not, and was not within 2 years before the Petition Date, a director, officer, or employee of the Debtor; and (c) does not hold any interest adverse to the Debtor's estate. I therefore believe that IW is a "disinterested person," as such term is defined by section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code, as required by Bankruptcy Code section 327(a).

- 26. Further, as far as I have been able to determine, no partner, associate, or employee of IW is related to or connected with any judge of this Court, any judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, or the U.S. Trustee for the region serving this District, such that the Debtor's employment of IW would be improper under Bankruptcy Rule 5002.
- 27. Throughout the Chapter 11 Case, IW will continue to review its files, including any new clients or relationships, to ensure that no conflicts or other disqualifying circumstances exist or arise. If any new relevant facts or relationships are discovered or arise, IW will use reasonable efforts to identify such further developments and will promptly file a supplemental declaration, as required by Bankruptcy Rule 2014(a) and Local Rule 2014-1. If IW becomes aware of any actual conflict and if IW is not able to obtain a waiver of the conflict of interest, then McDermott will be solely responsible for representing the Debtor with respect to such matter.

⁶ I have been a member of the panel of Chapter 7 Trustees for the Southern District of Ohio in Columbus since May of 1983. I am not an employee of the US Trustee. My status as a Chapter 7 Trustee does not prevent me or IW from being disinterested

Case 2:22-bk-50804 Doc 107 Filed 04/05/22 Entered 04/05/22 11:38:57 Desc Main Document Page 30 of 40

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: April 4, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David M. Whittaker

David M. Whittaker

Partner

Isaac Wiles & Burkholder LLC

Schedule 1 to Whittaker Declaration

Potential Parties in Interest

Potential Parties in Interest

Debtor

Volunteer Energy Services, Inc.

Debtor's Equity Security Holder

Richard A. Curnutte, Sr.

Bankruptcy Judges and Staff

Chief Judge John E. Hoffman, Jr.

Judge Jeffery P. Hopkins

Judge C. Kathryn Preston

Judge Guy R. Humphrey

Judge Beth A. Buchanan

Judge Mina Nami Khorami

Kristie Vickers

Brian Gifford

Susan Thompson

Karli Fisher

Laura Atack

Benedict Wiesner

Tom Kisor

Konrad Starostka

Neil Berman

Elizabeth Rogers

A. Ryan Cunningham

Colleen Militello

Heather Gilliam

Rebecca Hess

Kristin Wehrmann

Susie Cioffi

Bankruptcy and Other Professionals

AEG Affiliated Energy Group

B. Riley Financial, Inc.

Blank Rome LLP

Boehm Kurtz & Lowry

Carlile Patchen & Murphy LLP

Clark Schaeffer Hackett

Dentons Cohen & Grigsby PC

Epiq Corporate Restructuring LLC

Gallagher Law

Ice MillerLLP

Isaac Wiles & Burkholder, LLC

The Keystone Group

McDermott Will & Emery LLP

McDonald Hopkins LLC

McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC

Sidley Austin LLP

Standley Law Group LLP

Tidwell Group

Wilke & Associates LLP

Banks and Lenders

PNC Bank, National Association

PNC Capital Markets LLC

Current and Former Directors and

Officers

Richard A. Curnutte

John L. Einstein

David Warner

Anthony Digioia, Jr.

Richard A. Curnutte, Jr.

Jeffrey M. Horsley

Marc C. Runck

Energy – Utility/LDC Counterparties

AEP Ohio Power

AES Corporation

American Electric

Columbia Gas of Kentucky

Columbia Gas of Ohio

Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania

Consumers Energy Co

Dominion Energy - Ohio

DPL - Dayton Power & Light Company

DTE Gas Company

Duke Energy

First Energy

MGU - Michigan Gas Utilities

Ohio Power Co - Distribution

Peoples Natural Gas Co

Semco Central

The East Ohio Gas Company

Vectren aka Centerpoint Energy

WE Energies

Energy - Hedges

Bank of America

Nextera Energy Marketing LLC

StoneX Group (FC Stone)

Interactive Brokers
Ice US OTC Commodity Markets LLC

Energy - Supplier

Arm Energy

BP

CarbonBetter LLC
DTE Energy Trading Inc

ECO-Energy

ICE - Intercontinental Exchange Sequent Energy Management Shell Energy North America (US) LP

Snyder Brothers

Texla Energy Management Inc

Energy-Pipeline/Transmission

ANR Pipeline Company
Columbia Gas Transmission Corp.
Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc. aka
Eastern Gas Transmission
Nexus Gas Transmission LLCX (US)
Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line
Rockies Express Pipeline
Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company

Texas Eastern Transmission LP Trunkline Gas Company LLC

Transco Gas PipeLine

Energy - ISO

PJM Settlement Inc.

Energy - Utility/LDC Other

American Electric Power Dominion East Ohio Gas Ohio Edison Company The Illuminating Company Toledo Edison Company

Energy - RECs

Spectron Energy Inc.

ICAP

3Degrees Group Inc.

Energy – Supplier (Local)

American Energy Services B & E Resources LLC

Beardmore Producing Co Big Sand Drilling Company Inc Blessing Acres Properties LLC

Bruce Maendel

C&D Oil and Gas LLC

Cambrian Hunter, Inc.

Cedar Valley

Don Bandy

G & O Resources, LTD

Gress Oil & Gas

JD Gas & Oil Inc

John Campton

Oil Field Service, Inc

OOGA - Ohio Oil & Gas Association

Ohio Oil & Gas Energy Education Program

- OOGEEP

Pete & Violet Schoeni Red Hill Development Co S & S Energy Corporation

T & F Exploration

Triple B, LLC

Zoran Oil & Gas

Energy – Surety Bond

Capital Indemnity

Cincinnati Insurance

Great American Insurance Trimble Insurance Agency

Timble msurance rig

USI insurance

Broker/Channel Partners

ABA Energy Partners Inc.

Abba Enterprises Unlimited LLC

Ablahad Salmo

Academy Utility Consultants

Action Business Services LLC

Adam N Girard

AES - Huck Hayes

Alternate Energy Suppliers

Alternative Gas & Electric Solutions, LLC Alternative Utility Services, Inc. (AUS)

Amerex

AMPO Inc.

AMT Telecom

Amy Avery

Andrew Skedo Dyna FlowLLC

Antoinette Weathers ECOVA Tharaldson Group
Aspen Energy Electric & Gas Savings LLC

Asset Energy LLC Elizabeth Young Athens Area Chamber of Commerce Emuna Energy

Baroda Group LLC Enel X North America, Inc.

BHP Energy LLC GEM Energy EnerCom Inc
Blue Flame Enerconnex LLC

Plus Hook Systems LLC

Blue Hook Systems LLC Energen Inc.
Blue Print Energy Group Energy Alliances, Inc.

Bradley Lewis Energy Auction Exchange LLC

Broker Online Exchange Energy Choice LLC
Buckeye Energy Brokers, Inc. Energy Cost Savers

Burton Energy Group Energy Edge Strategic Solutions

Cambridge Area Chamber of Commerce
CCAOSC Energy Solutions, LLC.

CEH Consulting LLC
Chamber Energy Solutions, LLC.

Energy Impact
Energy Profeesionals
Energy Revenue
Enstar Energy LLC

Chase Tek Corporation ERC Services LLC

Cherrydale Executive Assistant Service

Cherrydale dba Commercial Services FirstEnergy Solutions Dba The E Group

Brokers Five Gems
Choice Energy Services Retail Fred Holmes

City of Gallipolis Global Deregulation Services Inc

City of Pickerington - Reinvestment Good Energy L.P.
City of Reynoldsburg Green Power Source
City of St Clairsville Greenlight Marketing LLC
Clifford Walker III Growers Energy Solutions, LLC.

Commercial & Industrail Energy
Commercial Service Broker
Community Energy Advisers

GSA Group
Habes LLC
HealthTrust Purchasing Group

Compass Enterprises Heartland Energy

Consumer Energy Solutions Inc.

Consumers Energy Options

Curago Energy LLC

HPS LLC

Huck Hayes

Ice Solutions Inc

CVC Co LLC

Dan Gheesling

Dave Erich

Independent Energy Consultants Inc

Industrial and Commercial Energy Cons.

Insight Sourcing Group

David Donahue Integrity Energy
David Printup Irish Energy
David Tomlin JAC Technologies

Daybreak Energy Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce

Dena Leginski Jamie Warner
Dennis Giancola JARSCO LLC
Derrick Parker Jeff Brandt
Diversified Energy Jieun Yoon

JME Leadership Committee LLC

Joel Heron

John C. Costa John R Wiles

John Urmetz

Jon Dunbar

Jon Jurhs

Jonathan Firetage KBK Group Kristine Mahan

Lakepoint Energy LLC Landmark Real Estate

Larry Hughes Lawrence Popiel LCI Networking LTD

Lights Out Energy Logan-Hocking Chamber of Commerce

Logical Communication Services, LLC

Lyons Consulting LLC
M&S SpeedForce, LLC.
Madison Blair and Co.

Magic Diamond Tools, Inc. Marc Sosnowski

Mark Brickley Mark Coffey Mark Gahn

Matthews Marketing Michael Capuano Michigan 4 Energy LLC Michigan Retailers Association

Midwest Energy Inc.

Midwest Utility Consultants, Inc.

Mike Kennedy

Monumental Energy LLC

MSI Utilities Inc Muirfield Energy Natalie Girard

National Energy Experts, Inc National Sales Systems, LLC. Nelsonville Area Chamber New American Power New River Group, LLC.

Nick Barlow Nicolas Andreasson

North Shore Energy Consulting

OGW Energy Resources

OHIO EIC

Ohio Energy Management LLC

Ohio Industrials

On-Demand Energy, LP

One Source

Onyx Power & Gas Consulting

Open Energy LLC

Options Consulting Services Palmer Energy Company, Inc.

Patricia Hancz Paul Pickell

Performance Group of America LLC Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce

Power Bid

Pure Energy Source RD Energy Inc.

Regor Energy Corporation

Revenue Group Salesloft Division

Rick Ebaugh

S J Cobb & Associates

SCEW

Schneider Electric fka Summit Energy Ser.

SCioto Energy

Shamie Development, Inc

Sheree Hill Simple Energy

South East Energy Consultants LLC Southern Energy Alliance & Holding

Steve Mintz

Strategic Energy Service Sun Heating & Cooling Inc Supernova Partners, LLC Svetlana Newberry Tacuma Swanson

Taylor Energy Partners LLC
Taylor Marketing Group
TEF Energy Solutions
Telecom Consulting
TES Energy Services
The Eagles Nest Worldwide
The Pragma Company LLC

Thomas Haefner
Tiffany Maholm
Tim O'Brien
Timothy C. Hall Jr

Tom Kozak

TPI Efficiency

Trajectory Services, LLC Trane Energy Choice

Trebel LLC

Triple S Energy Management LLC Triumph Purchasing Network Inc

Ty Branscum URC Energy

USave Utilities LLC Utilities Group

Utility Choice International

Utility Research Inc Utility Savings Assn VERB Energy LLC Vibrant Energy Company

Vikron Energy
Village of Albany
Village of Barnesville
Village of Bethesda
Village of Bridgeport
Village Of Cadiz-

Village of Fredericktown Village of Warsaw

WMS Inc.

Worthington Energy Consultants

Payroll & Benefits

Ameriflex Business Solutions

Guardian Insurance

Paylocity

Transamerica Retirement Services

Crest Retirement

SG&A

Aetna

Westfield Insurance

Call Insurance Agency, Inc.

Ohio BWC

CompManagement Health Systems, Inc. -

Sedgwick

Everest Indemnity Insurance Company Cobbs Allen Capital, LLC dba CAC

Specialty

Astute Technology Management

AT&T U-verse

Cognitive Energy LLC.

Computer Voice Systems

EC Infosystems, Inc

Ice US OTC Commodity Markets LLC

Key Internet Systems Quadient Leasing Volli Communications Hopkins Printing

Portfolio Creative, LLC. Touchpoint Strategies

US Postmaster American Express Buckeye Culligan

Canon Financial Services

Cintas Corporation

Continental Message Solutions Inc

Crest Retirement

Local Waste Services LLC

Public Storage

Staples Business Credit Columbia Gas of Ohio Guardian Protection Services

Local Waste Services South Central Power

LJC Real Estate Holdings, LLC Ohio State Tax Department

PA UC Fund

Customers

Adams Township

Berlin Township

Bethel Township

Board of Commissioners Stark Co

Board of Erie County Commissioners

Brown Township

Cambridge Township

Canfield Township

City of Ashland

City of Bellefontaine

City of Bowling Green

City of Canfield

City of Celina

City of Clyde

Cityof Columbiana

City of Findlay

City of Fremont

City of Gallipolis
City of Greenville
City of Marion
City of North Canton
City of Ontario
City of Pickerington
Prierce Township
Prike Township
Prairie Township
Salem Township
Salem Township

City of Reynoldsburg Sandy Township (Stark County)
City of Salem Sandy Township (Tuscarawas County)

City of Shelby Scioto Township
City of Sidney Springfield Township
City of St. Clairsville Steubenville Township

City of St. Marys Sugar Creek Township (Tuscarawas

City of Uhrichsville County)

City of Washington Court House Troy Township
City of Willard Tuscarawas Township
City of Wilmington Viillage of Shawnee Hills

City of Wilmington

City of Xenia

Clay Township

Cross Creek Township

Delaware Township

Etna Township

Village of Albany

Village of Ansonia

Village of Ashville

Village of Barnesville

Village of Bellville

Village of Bellville

Franklin Township (Coshocton Co)
Village of Bethesda
Franklin Township (Tuscarawasa Co)
Village of Bradford
Village of Bradner
Village of Bradner
Village of Brewster
German Township
Village of Bridgeport
Village of Cadiz
Greenville Township
Village of Corwin
Hamilton Township
Village of Covington

Hamilton Township
Harrison Township
Village of Covington
Village of Elmore
Harrison Township
Village of Fort Loramie
Village of Fredericktown
Village of Grafton

Lawrence Township Village of Greenfield
Liberty Township (Hancock Co) Village of Jeffersonville
Mad River Township Village of Killbuck

Madison Township (Clark Co) Village of Magnolia
Madison Township (Franklin County) Village of McConnelsville

Marion Township Village of Milan Medina County Village of Navarre Mill Township Village of New Waterford Monroe Township Village of Pomeroy Morgan Township Village of Russia Orange Township Village of Silverton Pease Township Village of Sunbury Perrysburg Township Village of Warsaw

Village of West Lafayette Village of West Milton Warren Township

Washington Township (Richland Co) Wayne County East Union Twp

Wayne Township (Jefferson County)
Wayne Township (Warren County)

Ballville Township

Blooming Grove Township Butler Township (Richland Co)

City of Campbell
City of Girard
City of Marietta
City of Uhrichsville
Concord Township
Cross Creek Township
Green Creek Township
Green Township
Harrison Township

Jefferson Township (Richland Co)

Lawrence Township

Jackson Township

Madison Township (Franklin Co)

Mill Township
Mingo Junction
Montgomery Township
Orange Township
Prairie Township
Sandusky Township
Springfield Township
Steubenville Township

Sugarcreek Township (Stark Co)

Townsend Township

Union Township (Licking Co)

Village of Cadiz Village of Elida Village of Minerva Village of Polk Village of Rayland

Village of Sunbury Village of St. Henry Village of Tiltonsville

Village of Wintersville Village of Yorkville

Washington Township (Richland Co) Washington Township (Sandusky Co) Weller Township York Township

2727 Brice Road LLC aka Lindsay

A and K Enterprises, Inc. Atrium Real Estate II, LLC Big Lots Stores, Inc. -1 Big Lots Stores, Inc. -1 Big Lots Stores, Inc. -2 Big Lots Stores, Inc. -2 Broad-Third Partners, Inc. Bryce Hill, Inc. (Build-A-Bear)

Build-A-Bear

Central Ohio Farmers Co-Op, Inc. Central Ohio Farmers Co-Op, Inc.

Champaign Family YMCA
Columbus International Aircenter
Columbus International Aircenter
County Line Co-Op Inc.

County Line Co-Op Inc. C.O.W. Industries CSX Transportation, Inc. Det Norske Veritas

DRIV Automotive, Inc./Tenneco Automotive Operating Co.

Galion YMCA IBC Inc.

Industrial Nut Corporation

Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority

The Mango Tree, Inc. Marion YMCA Marion YMCA

Morral Companies, LLC Morral Companies, LLC Morral Companies, LLC Morral Companies, LLC Sandusky County YMCA Scioto Country Club Shelby YMCA Sigma Tube Co. Toledo Gaming Ventures, LLC dba Hollywood Casino Tumbleweed Restaurant's, Inc. Uni-Grip, Inc. United Fiberglass of America, Inc. United Fiberglass of America, Inc. US Tsubaki Power Transmission US Tsubaki Power Transmission Walgreen Co. YMCA of Ross County The Zimmerman Companies, LLC Ascension of Our Lord Church David Lassalle/Colonial Hall Apartments Great Lakes Cold Logistics Argonne Residence Inn LLC Unarco Material Handling fka Clymer Enterprises Cleveland Heights Recreation Ctr Energy Cooperative of Ohio Formall Rubber Company Parker Hannifin Corp. Sunrise Cooperative Inc Village of Oakwood, Ohio

Taxing Authorities

Adams County Treasurer Office
Allegheny County Treasurer Office
Allen County Treasurer Office
Ashland County Treasurer Office
Ashtabula County Treasurer Office
Athens County Treasurer Office
Auglaize County Treasurer Office
Belmont County Treasurer Office
Brown County Treasurer Office
Butler County Treasurer Office
Carrol County Treasurer Office
Champaign County Treasurer Office
Clark County Treasurer Office
Clermont County Treasurer Office
Clermont County Treasurer Office
Clinton County Treasurer Office

City of Pickerington Columbiana County Treasurer Office Coshocton County Treasurer Office Crawford County Treasurer Office Cuyahoga County Treasurer Office **Defiance County Treasurer Office** Delaware County Treasurer Office Drake County Treasurer Office Erie County Treasurer Office Fairfield County Treasurer Office Fayette County Treasurer Office Franklin County Treasurer Office Fulton County Treasurer Office Gallia County Treasurer Office Geauga County Treasurer Office Greene County Treasurer Office Guernsey County Treasurer Office Hamilton County Treasurer Office Hancock County Treasurer Office Hardin County Treasurer Office Harrison County Assessor Harrison County Treasurer Office Henry County Treasurer Office Highland County Treasurer Office **Hocking County Treasurer Office** Holmes County Treasurer Office Huron County Treasurer Office Internal Revenue Service Jackson County Assessor's Office Jackson County Treasurer Office Jefferson County Treasurer Office Kanawha County Office of the Assessor **Knox County Treasurer Office** Lake County Treasurer Office Lawrence County Treasurer Office Licking County Treasurer Office Logan County Treasurer Office Lorain County Auditor Office Lucas County Treasurer Office Madison County Treasurer Office Mahoning County Treasurer Office Marion County Treasurer Office Marshall County Assessor's Office Medina County Treasurer Office Meigs County Treasurer Office

Mercer County Treasurer Office

Miami County Treasurer Office Monroe County Treasurer Office Montgomery County Treasurer Office Morgan County Treasurer Office Morrow County Treasurer Office Muskingum County Treasurer Office Noble County Treasurer Office Ohio Department of Taxation Ohio State Tax Department Ottawa County Treasurer Office Paulding County Treasurer Office Pennsylvania Department of Revenue Perry County Treasurer Office Pickaway County Treasurer Office Pike County Auditor Office Pocahontas County Assessor's Office Portage County Treasurer Office Preble County Auditor Office Preston County Assessor **Putnam County Assessor** Putman County Treasurer Office Randolph County Assessor's Office Richland County Treasurer Office Ross County Treasurer Office Sandusky County Treasurer Office Scoito County Treasurer Office Seneca County Treasurer Office **Shelby County Treasurer Office** Stark County Treasurer Office Summit County Fiscal Office Trumbull County Treasurer Office Tuscarawas County Treasurer Office Union County Treasurer Office Van Wert County Treasurer Office Vinton County Treasurer Office Warren County Treasurer Office Washington County Treasurer Office Wayne County Treasurer Office Wetzel County Assessor Williams County Treasurer Office Wirt County Assessor's Office Wood County Assessor Wood County Treasurer Office

Wyandot County Treasurer Office

Regulatory Authorities

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Kentucky Public Service Commission Michigan Public Service Commission Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Public Utilities Commission of Ohio U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Insurance

Everest Indemnity Insurance Company Westfield Insurance Company Aetna Westfield Insurance Call Insurance Agency, Inc.

U.S. Trustee Office

MaryAnne Wilsbacher Pamela Arndt Jeremy Shane Flannery Matthew McDonald Dianna Dirr Jeffrey Pfreim Peter Sergakis Jacquelyn Snyder Kambria Beckstein Kim Caton Jodi Mulvaine Melody Shade Erick Van Bramer Janet Smith