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Ned Ford's Curriculum Vita

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Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Exhibit No. 28  
Case No(s). EG-2005-0829  
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Age: 52

At present:

Member, National Global Warming and Energy Committee, Sierra Club  
Energy Chair, Ohio Chapter, Sierra Club  
Manager of the Sierra Club's national listserver on energy issues and co-manager of the listserver on Global Warming issues

Since 1983 I have devoted my personal time and attention to the economics of electric utilities, and the ways in which different forms of ratemaking create perverse conflicts of interest between the utilities and their customers. This interest centers primarily on the tremendous difference between the end-use efficiency programs that some utilities conduct and the trivial or non-existent efforts made by other utilities. But it extends broadly into many other areas of utility activities and into many other areas of concern about the environment. I have developed a specific high level of understanding about climate change and the importance of embarking soon on steady moderate reductions in CO2 emissions.

I was appointed to the Sierra Club's national Energy Committee around 1987. For about five years I edited the Club's national publication on energy issues, the Energy Report. I started the Club's e-mail list on Energy around 1992, and later the Global Warming Forum. I have managed several year-long investigations that resulted in Club papers on Biomass and Wind issues.

From 1992 through 1996 the Ohio Chapter of the Sierra Club engaged in about 25 formal interventions before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, affecting all eight of the regulated utilities in Ohio at one time or another, and promoting the regulatory reform and program cost recovery treatment necessary to enable the utilities to participate in efficiency programs without economic penalty. I managed all of these cases for the Sierra Club, and actively participated in the development of briefs and testimony. I gave expert testimony on behalf of the Sierra Club in one case involving American Electric Power. The results of our efforts included \$140 million in efficiency program spending across the State, although very unevenly distributed among the utilities. Because these programs were very small compared to those that have run longest and strongest

elsewhere, they captured a relatively large fraction of very cheap and powerful measures, and the retail savings from these programs is likely to have exceeded \$1 billion.

I spent a large part of those five years attending collaborative working groups with four Ohio utilities and selected customer representatives debating and to some extent advising on the efficiency program design, monitoring and evaluation and occasionally termination.

Ohio terminated the utility efficiency programs by denying the utilities full recovery of program costs in a politically motivated decision that ignored a powerful showing of economic benefit in 1995. Three utilities expressed a strong desire to preserve the programs, and one actually continued to run the programs in the absence of full cost recovery. I turned my attention to matters where my efforts would be more productive.

I have written many articles, guest columns and so forth including an article in Barrons, and letters published in Science, The Electricity Journal, and the New York Times.

The subject of my avocation is one that can be studied to some degree by selected reading, but my personal experience is to have watched the evolution of a concept into a firm and important reality over a quarter century. By being engaged as I am in a constant flow of electronic communications on related matters I have come to know many of the principle developers of the systematic engagement by regulated utilities in energy efficiency programs, and have had access to many important working papers, reports, discussions and other dialogue.

Since the late 1980's I have paid close attention to the development of science surrounding climate change. In the last five years I have become particularly concerned with and informed about the chemical changes that occur in the surface waters of the ocean as fossil fuel emissions increase in the atmosphere.

I have no academic credentials in these areas, but have spent much of my adult life bridging discussions between disciplines which are apparently lacking in the ability to communicate. It often has the effect of making complex problems simpler to understand.

Prior to my involvement with electric utility issues I spent four years as a member of the Steering Committee for a campaign that put a beverage deposit law on the Ohio ballot. The common theme between these issues is job creation, economic benefit, energy savings and environmental benefit. Perhaps another common theme is that the evidence is starkly available if one takes the time to look at the places that have made this advance. But it remains the case that many substantial benefits remain untapped, or unachieved simply because information is not properly passed around and acknowledged.