CLEVELAN Form 10-K February 28	ND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING CO	
February 28	, 2012	
	CATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FON, D. C. 20549	
n	ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECUR ACT OF 1934	ITIES EXCHANGE
	l year ended December 31, 2011	
0	FRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SEC ACT OF 1934	CURITIES EXCHANGE
For the trans	ition period from to	
Commission File Number	Registrant; State of Incorporation;	I.R.S. Employer Identification No.
333-21011	FIRSTENERGY CORP. (An Ohio Corporation) 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 Telephone (800)736-3402	34-1843785
000-53742	FIRSTENERGY SOLUTIONS CORP. (An Ohio Corporation) c/o FirstEnergy Corp. 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 Telephone (800)736-3402	31-1560186
1-2578	OHIO EDISON COMPANY (An Ohio Corporation) c/o FirstEnergy Corp. 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 Telephone (800)736-3402	34-0437786
1-2323	THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY (An Ohio Corporation) c/o FirstEnergy Corp. 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 Telephone (800)736-3402	34-0150020
1-3583	THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY (An Ohio Corporation) c/o FirstEnergy Corp. 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 Telephone (800)736-3402	34-4375005

1-3141	JERSEY CENTRAL POWER & LIGHT COMPANY (A New Jersey Corporation) c/o FirstEnergy Corp. 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 Telephone (800)736-3402	21-0485010
1-446	METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY (A Pennsylvania Corporation) c/o FirstEnergy Corp. 76 South Main Street Akron, OH 44308 Telephone (800)736-3402	23-0870160
1-3522	<ul> <li>PENNSYLVANIA ELECTRIC COMPANY</li> <li>(A Pennsylvania Corporation)</li> <li>c/o FirstEnergy Corp.</li> <li>76 South Main Street</li> <li>Akron, OH 44308</li> <li>Telephone (800)736-3402</li> </ul>	25-0718085

# SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:			
Registrant	Title of Each Class		Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
FirstEnergy C SECURITIES Registrant	Corp. Common Stock, \$0. Corp. Common Stock, \$0. Common Stock, \$0.		New York Stock Exchange
FirstEnergy S	olutions Corp.	Common Stock, no	par value per share
Ohio Edison (	Company	Common Stock, no	par value per share
The Cleveland	d Electric Illuminating Company	Common Stock, no	par value per share
The Toledo E	dison Company	Common Stock, \$5.	00 par value per share
Jersey Central	l Power & Light Company	Common Stock, \$10	0.00 par value per share
Metropolitan	Edison Company	Common Stock, no	par value per share
Pennsylvania Electric CompanyCommon Stock, \$20.00 par value per shareIndicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.Yes b No oFirstEnergy Corp. FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Are so No bYes o No bThe Toledo Edison Company, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Metropolitan Edison Company and Pennsylvania Electric CompanyIndicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.Yes o No bFirstEnergy Corp., FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Yes o No bYes o No bIlluminating Company, The Toledo Edison Company, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Metropolitan Edison Company and Pennsylvania Electric CompanyIndicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. FirstEnergy Corp., FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Yes b No oIndicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). FirstEnergy Corp., FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison Company Metropolitan Edison Company and Pennsyl			
	by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or a FirstEnergy Corp. FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison C The Toledo Edison Company, Jersey Centra	iny amendment to this Company, The Clevela	Form 10-K.

and Pennsylvania Electric Company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

FirstEnergy Corp., \$18,414,746,649 as of June 30, 2011; and for all other registrants, none.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

	OUTSTANDING
CLASS	AS OF JANUARY 31, 2012
FirstEnergy Corp., \$0.10 par value	418,216,437
FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., no par value	7
Ohio Edison Company, no par value	60
The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, no par value	67,930,743
The Toledo Edison Company, \$5 par value	29,402,054
Jersey Central Power & Light Company, \$10 par value	13,628,447
Metropolitan Edison Company, no par value	740,905
Pennsylvania Electric Company, \$20 par value	4,427,577

FirstEnergy Corp. is the sole holder of FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, The Toledo Edison Company, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Metropolitan Edison Company, and Pennsylvania Electric Company common stock.

Documents incorporated by reference (to the extent indicated herein):

	PART OF FORM 10-K INTO
DOCUMENT	WHICH
DOCUMENT	DOCUMENT IS
	INCORPORATED

Proxy Statement for 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held May 15, 2012 Parts II and III

This combined Form 10-K is separately filed by FirstEnergy Corp., FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, The Toledo Edison Company, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Metropolitan Edison Company and Pennsylvania Electric Company. Information contained herein relating to any individual registrant is filed by such registrant on its own behalf. No registrant makes any representation as to information relating to any other registrant, except that information relating to any of the FirstEnergy subsidiary registrants is also attributed to FirstEnergy Corp. OMISSION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION

FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, The Toledo Edison Company, Jersey Central Power & Light Company, Metropolitan Edison Company and Pennsylvania Electric Company meet the conditions set forth in General Instruction I(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-K and are therefore filing this Form 10-K with the reduced disclosure format specified in General Instruction I(2) to Form 10-K.

Forward-Looking Statements: This Form 10-K includes forward-looking statements based on information currently available to management. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. These statements include declarations regarding management's intents, beliefs and current expectations. These statements typically contain, but are not limited to, the terms "anticipate," "potential," "expect," "believe," "estimate" and similar words. Forward-looking statements involve estimates, assumptions, known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

Actual results may differ materially due to:

The speed and nature of increased competition in the electric utility industry.

The impact of the regulatory process on the pending matters before FERC and in the various states in which we do business including, but not limited to, matters related to rates.

The status of the PATH project in light of PJM's direction to suspend work on the project pending review of its planning process, its re-evaluation of the need for the project and the uncertainty of the timing and amounts of any related capital expenditures.

Business and regulatory impacts from ATSI's realignment into PJM.

Economic or weather conditions affecting future sales and margins.

Changes in markets for energy services.

Changing energy and commodity market prices and availability.

Financial derivative reforms that could increase our liquidity needs and collateral costs.

The continued ability of FirstEnergy's regulated utilities to collect transition and other costs.

Operation and maintenance costs being higher than anticipated.

Other legislative and regulatory changes, and revised environmental requirements, including possible GHG emission, water intake and coal combustion residual regulations, the potential impacts of any laws, rules or regulations that ultimately replace CAIR, including CSAPR which was stayed by the courts on December 30, 2011, and the effects of the EPA's MATS rules.

The uncertainty of the timing and amounts of the capital expenditures that may arise in connection with any

• litigation including NSR litigation or potential regulatory initiatives or rulemakings (including that such expenditures could result in our decision to shut down or idle certain generating units).

The uncertainty associated with the company's plan to retire its older unscrubbed regulated and competitive fossil units, including the impact on vendor commitments and PJM's review of the company's plans.

Adverse regulatory or legal decisions and outcomes with respect to our nuclear operations (including, but not limited to the revocation or non-renewal of necessary licenses, approvals or operating permits by the NRC including as a result of the incident at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant).

Issues that could result from our continuing investigation and analysis of the indications of cracking in the plant shield building at Davis-Besse.

Adverse legal decisions and outcomes related to Met-Ed's and Penelec's ability to recover certain transmission costs through their transmission service charge riders.

The continuing availability of generating units and changes in their ability to operate at or near full capacity. Replacement power costs being higher than anticipated or inadequately hedged.

The ability to comply with applicable state and federal reliability standards and energy efficiency mandates.

Changes in customers' demand for power, including but not limited to, changes resulting from the implementation of state and federal energy efficiency mandates.

The ability to accomplish or realize anticipated benefits from strategic goals.

FirstEnergy's ability to improve electric commodity margins and the impact of, among other factors, the increased cost of fuel and fuel transportation on such margins.

The ability to experience growth in the distribution business.

• The changing market conditions that could affect the value of assets held in FirstEnergy's NDTs, pension trusts and other trust funds, and cause FirstEnergy and its subsidiaries to make additional contributions sooner, or in

amounts that are larger than currently anticipated.

The impact of changes to material accounting policies.

The ability to access the public securities and other capital and credit markets in accordance with FirstEnergy's financing plan, the cost of such capital and overall condition of the capital and credit markets affecting FirstEnergy and its subsidiaries.

Changes in general economic conditions affecting FirstEnergy and its subsidiaries.

Interest rates and any actions taken by credit rating agencies that could negatively affect FirstEnergy's and its subsidiaries' access to financing or their costs and increase requirements to post additional collateral to support outstanding commodity positions, LOCs and other financial guarantees.

The continuing uncertainty of the national and regional economy and its impact on major industrial and commercial customers of FirstEnergy and its subsidiaries.

Issues concerning the soundness of financial institutions and counterparties with which FirstEnergy and its subsidiaries do business.

Issues arising from the completed merger of FirstEnergy and AE and the ongoing coordination of their combined operations including FirstEnergy's ability to maintain relationships with customers, employees and suppliers, as well as the ability to continue to successfully integrate the businesses and realize cost savings and other synergies.

The risks and other factors discussed from time to time in FirstEnergy's and its applicable subsidiaries' SEC filings, and

other similar factors.

Dividends declared from time to time on FE's common stock during any annual period may in the aggregate vary from the indicated amount due to circumstances considered by FE's Board of Directors at the time of the actual declarations. A security rating is not a recommendation to buy or hold securities and is subject to revision or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency. Each rating should be evaluated independently of any other rating.

The foregoing review of factors should not be construed as exhaustive. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all such factors, nor assess the impact of any such factor on FirstEnergy's business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. The registrants expressly disclaim any current intention to update, except as required by law, any forward-looking statements contained herein as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

#### GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following abbreviations and acronyms are used in this report to identify FirstEnergy Corp. and its current and former subsidiaries:

AE	Allegheny Energy, Inc., a Maryland utility holding company that merged with a subsidiary of FirstEnergy on February 25, 2011
AESC	Allegheny Energy Service Corporation, a subsidiary of AE
AESC AE Supply	Allegheny Energy Supply Company, LLC, an unregulated generation subsidiary of AE
AL Suppry	Allegheny Energy Transmission, LLC, a subsidiary of AE, which is the parent of TrAIL and
AET	has a joint venture in PATH.
AGC	Allegheny Generating Company, a generation subsidiary of AE
Allegheny	Allegheny Energy, Inc., together with its consolidated subsidiaries
ATSI	American Transmission Systems, Incorporated, which owns and operates transmission facilities
Buchanan Energy	Buchanan Energy Company of Virginia, LLC, a subsidiary of AE Supply
CEI	The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, an Ohio electric utility operating subsidiary
Centerior	Centerior Energy Corp., former parent of CEI and TE, which merged with OE to form FirstEnergy in 1997
FE	FirstEnergy Corp., a public utility holding company
FENOC	FirstEnergy Nuclear Operating Company, which operates nuclear generating facilities
FES	FirstEnergy Solutions Corp., which provides energy-related products and services
FESC	FirstEnergy Service Company, which provides legal, financial and other corporate support services
FEV	FirstEnergy Ventures Corp., which invests in certain unregulated enterprises and business ventures
FGCO	FirstEnergy Generation Corp., a subsidiary of FES, which owns and operates non-nuclear generating facilities
FirstEnergy	FirstEnergy Corp., together with its consolidated subsidiaries
	Global Mining Holding Company, LLC, a joint venture between FEV, WMB Marketing
Global Holding	Ventures, LLC and Gunvor Group, Ltd. that owns Global Rail and Signal Peak
	A joint venture between FEV, WMB Marketing Ventures, LLC and Gunvor Group, Ltd. that
Global Rail	owns coal transportation operations near Roundup, Montana
	GPU, Inc., former parent of JCP&L, Met-Ed and Penelec, that merged with FirstEnergy on
GPU	November 7, 2001
JCP&L	Jersey Central Power & Light Company, a New Jersey electric utility operating subsidiary
Jerul	Element Merger Sub, Inc., a Maryland corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of
Merger Sub	FirstEnergy
Met-Ed	Metropolitan Edison Company, a Pennsylvania electric utility operating subsidiary
MP	Monongahela Power Company, a West Virginia electric utility operating subsidiary of AE
1411	FirstEnergy Nuclear Generation Corp., a subsidiary of FES, which owns nuclear generating
NGC	facilities
OE	Ohio Edison Company, an Ohio electric utility operating subsidiary
Ohio Companies	CEI, OE and TE
Onio Companies	Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline, LLC, a joint venture between Allegheny and a
PATH	
DATU Allachany	subsidiary of AEP
PATH-Allegheny	PATH Allegheny Transmission Company, LLC
PATH-VA	PATH Allegheny Virginia Transmission Corporation
PE	The Potomac Edison Company, a Maryland electric utility operating subsidiary of AE
Penelec	Pennsylvania Electric Company, a Pennsylvania electric utility operating subsidiary

#### Edgar Filing: CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING CO - Form 10-K Penn Pennsylvania Power Company, a Pennsylvania electric utility operating subsidiary of OE Pennsylvania Met-Ed, Penelec, Penn and WP Companies **PNBV** PNBV Capital Trust, a special purpose entity created by OE in 1996 Shippingport Capital Trust, a special purpose entity created by CEI and TE in 1997 Shippingport A joint venture between FEV, WMB Marketing Ventures, LLC and Gunvor Group, Ltd. that Signal Peak owns mining operations near Roundup, Montana The Toledo Edison Company, an Ohio electric utility operating subsidiary Trans-Allegheny Interstate Line Company, a subsidiary of AET TrAIL Utilities OE, CEI, TE, Penn, JCP&L, Met-Ed, Penelec, MP, PE and WP

**Utility Registrants** OE, CEI, TE, JCP&L, Met-Ed and Penelec WP West Penn Power Company, a Pennsylvania electric utility operating subsidiary of AE The following abbreviations and acronyms are used to identify frequently used terms in this report: Administrative Law Judge ALJ Anker WV Anker West Virginia Mining Company, Inc.

Anker Coal Group, Inc. Anker Coal

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# GLOSSARY OF TERMS, Continued

AOCI	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income
AEP	American Electric Power Company, Inc.
AMT	Alternative Minimum Tax
AQC	Air Quality Control
ARO	Asset Retirement Obligation
AREPA	Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Act
ARR	Auction Revenue Right
ASLB	Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
BGS	Basic Generation Service
BMP	Bruce Mansfield Plant
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAL	Confirmatory Action Letter
CAIR	Clean Air Interstate Rule
CAMR	Clean Air Mercury Rule
CATR	Clean Air Transport Rule
CBP	Competitive Bid Process
CCB	Coal Combustion By-products
CDWR	California Department of Water Resources
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFL	Compact Florescent Light bulb
CFTC	Commodity Futures Trading Commission
$CO_2$	Carbon Dioxide
CSÁPR	Cross-State Air Pollution Rule
CTC	Competitive Transition Charge
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWIP	Construction Work in Progress
DCPD	Deferred Compensation Plan for Outside Directors
DCR	Delivery Capital Recovery Rider
DOE	United States Department of Energy
DOJ	United States Department of Justice
DSP	Default Service Plan
Duke	Duke Energy Corporation
EDC	Electric Distribution Company
EDCP	Executive Deferred Compensation Plan
EE&C	Energy Efficiency and Conservation
EGS	Electric Generation Supplier
EMP	Energy Master Plan
ENEC	Expanded Net Energy Cost
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPRI	Electric Power Research Institute
ERO	Electric Reliability Organization
ESOP	Employee Stock Ownership Plan
ESP	Electric Security Plan
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Fitch	Fitch Ratings
FMB	First Mortgage Bond

FPA	Federal Power Act
FTR	Financial Transmission Right
GAAP	Accounting Principles Generally Accepted in the United States
Generation Asset Transfers	Intra-system generation asset transfers from the Ohio Companies and Penn to FGCO and NGC

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS, Continued

GHG	Greenhouse Gases
ICG	International Coal Group inc.
ILP	Integrated License Application Process
IRS	Internal Revenue Service
kV	Kilovolt
KWH	Kilowatt-hour
LBR	Little Blue Run
Lidar	Light Detection and Ranging
LOC	Letter of Credit
LSE	Load Serving Entity
LTIP	Long-Term Incentive Plan
MATS	Mercury and Air Toxics Standards
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
MDPSC	Maryland Public Service Commission
Mine Act	Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977
MISO	Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc.
Mission	Mission Energy Westside, Inc.
Moody's	Moody's Investors Service, Inc.
MSHĂ	Mine Safety and Health Administration
MTEP	MISO Regional Transmission Expansion Plan
MVP	Multi-value Project
MW	Megawatt
MWH	Megawatt-hour
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NDT	Nuclear Decommissioning Trust
NEIL	Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
NJBPU	New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
NNSR	Non-Attainment New Source Review
NOV	Notice of Violation
NOV	Nitrogen Oxide
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NSR	New Source Review
	Non-Utility Generation
NUG	Non-Othity Generation New York State Public Service Commission
NYPSC	New York State Fublic Service Commission New York State Electric and Gas
NYSEG	
OCA	Office of Consumer Advocate (Pennsylvania)
OCI	Other Comprehensive Income
OPEB	Other Post-Employment Benefits
OSBA	Office of Small Business Advocate
OTC	Over The Counter
OTTI	Other Than Temporary Impairments
OVEC	Ohio Valley Electric Corporation
PAD	Pre-application Document
PA DEP	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PCRB	Pollution Control Revenue Bond
PJM	PJM Interconnection L. L. C.
PM	Particulate Matter

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# GLOSSARY OF TERMS, Continued

POLR	Provider of Last Resort
PPUC	Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
PSA	Power Supply Agreement
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
PUCO	Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
PURPA	Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978
R&D	Research and Development
REC	Renewable Energy Credit
RFC	ReliabilityFirst
RFP	Request for Proposal
RGGI	Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
ROE	Return on Equity
RPM	Reliability Pricing Model
RPS	Rules Governing Alternative and Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard
RTEP	Regional Transmission Expansion Plan
RTO	Regional Transmission Organization
S&P	Standard & Poor's Ratings Service
SB221	Amended Substitute Senate Bill 221
SBC	Societal Benefits Charge
SEC	United States Securities and Exchange Commission
SIP	State Implementation Plan(s) Under the Clean Air Act
SMIP	Smart Meter Implementation Plan
SO <sub>2</sub>	Sulfur Dioxide
SOS	Standard Offer Service
SREC	Solar Renewable Energy Credit
TBC	Transition Bond Charge
TDS	Total Dissolved Solid
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TMI-2	Three Mile Island Unit 2
ТО	Transmission Owner
TSC	Transmission Service Charge
VIE	Variable Interest Entity
VSCC	Virginia State Corporation Commission
WVDEP	West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
WVPSC	Public Service Commission of West Virginia

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#### PART I

**ITEM 1. BUSINESS** 

The Company

FirstEnergy Corp. was organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1996. FirstEnergy's principal business is the holding, directly or indirectly, of all of the outstanding common stock of its principal subsidiaries: OE, CEI, TE, Penn (a wholly owned subsidiary of OE), ATSI, JCP&L, Met-Ed, Penelec, AE and its principal subsidiaries (AE Supply, AGC, MP, PE, WP, AET and its principal subsidiaries (TrAIL and PATH), and AESC), FES and its principal subsidiaries (FGCO and NGC), and FESC. AE merged with a subsidiary of FirstEnergy on February 25, 2011, with AE continuing as the surviving corporation and becoming a wholly owned subsidiaries including: FirstEnergy In addition, FirstEnergy holds all of the outstanding common stock of other direct subsidiaries including: FirstEnergy Properties, Inc., FEV, FENOC, FELHC, Inc., FirstEnergy Facilities Services Group, LLC, FirstEnergy Fiber Holdings Corp., GPU Power, Inc., GPU Nuclear, Inc., MARBEL Energy Corporation and FESC.

FirstEnergy's revenues are primarily derived from electric service provided by its utility operating subsidiaries (OE, CEI, TE, Penn, ATSI, JCP&L, Met-Ed, Penelec, MP, PE, WP and TrAIL) and the sale of energy and related products and services by its unregulated competitive subsidiaries, FES and AE Supply.

The Utilities' combined service areas encompass approximately 65,000 square miles in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey and New York. The areas they serve have a combined population of approximately 13.6 million.

OE was organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1930 and owns property and does business as an electric public utility in that state. OE engages in the distribution and sale of electric energy to communities in a 7,000 square mile area of central and northeastern Ohio. The area it serves has a population of approximately 2.3 million. OE complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and PUCO.

OE owns all of Penn's outstanding common stock. Penn was organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1930 and owns property and does business as an electric public utility in that state. Penn is also authorized to do business in the State of Ohio. Penn furnishes electric service to communities in 1,100 square miles of western Pennsylvania. The area it serves has a population of approximately 0.4 million. Penn complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and PPUC.

CEI was organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1892 and does business as an electric public utility in that state. CEI engages in the distribution and sale of electric energy in an area of 1,600 square miles in northeastern Ohio. The area it serves has a population of approximately 1.7 million. CEI complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and PUCO.

TE was organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1901 and does business as an electric public utility in that state. TE engages in the distribution and sale of electric energy in an area of 2,300 square miles in northwestern Ohio. The area it serves has a population of approximately 0.7 million. TE complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and PUCO.

ATSI was organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1998. ATSI owns major, high-voltage transmission facilities, which consist of approximately 5,800 pole miles of transmission lines with nominal voltages of 345 kV, 138 kV and 69 kV. On June 1, 2011, ATSI transferred operational control of its transmission facilities from MISO to PJM (see FERC Matters for RTO Realignment). ATSI plans, operates, and maintains its transmission system in accordance with NERC reliability standards, and applicable regulatory requirements to ensure reliable service to customers. ATSI complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and applicable state regulatory authorities.

JCP&L was organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey in 1925 and owns property and does business as an electric public utility in that state. JCP&L provides transmission and distribution services in 3,200 square miles of northern, western and east central New Jersey. The area it serves has a population of approximately 2.7 million. JCP&L also has an ownership interest in a hydroelectric generating facility. JCP&L complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and the NJBPU.

Met-Ed was organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1922 and owns property and does business as an electric public utility in that state. Met-Ed provides transmission and distribution services in 3,300 square miles of eastern and south central Pennsylvania. The area it serves has a population of approximately 1.2 million. Met-Ed complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and PPUC.

Penelec was organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1919 and owns property and does business as an electric public utility in that state. Penelec provides transmission and distribution services in 17,600 square miles of western, northern and south central Pennsylvania. The area it serves has a population of approximately 1.3 million. Penelec, as lessee of the property of its subsidiary, The Waverly Electric Light & Power Company, also serves customers in the Waverly, New York vicinity.

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Penelec complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC, NYPSC and PPUC, as applicable.

PE was organized under the laws of the State of Maryland in 1923 and in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1974. PE is authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the States of West Virginia and Maryland. PE owns property and does business as an electric public utility in those states. PE provides transmission and/or distribution services in 5,500 square miles area in portions of Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. The area it serves has a population of approximately 0.9 million. PE complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC, MDPSC, VSCC, and WVPSC, as applicable.

MP was organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1924 and owns property and does business as an electric public utility in the state of West Virginia. MP provides transmission and distribution services in 13,000 square miles of northern West Virginia. The area it serves has a population of approximately 0.8 million. MP also owns generation assets. As of December 31, 2011, MP owned or contractually controlled 2,737 MWs of generation capacity that is supplied to its electric utility business. In addition, MP is contractually obligated to provide PE with the power that it needs to meet its load obligations in West Virginia. MP complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and WVPSC, as applicable.

WP was organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1916 and owns property and does business as an electric public utility in that state. WP provides transmission and distribution services in 10,400 square miles of southwestern, south-central and northern Pennsylvania. The area it serves has a population of approximately 1.6 million. WP complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC and PPUC, as applicable.

TrAIL was organized under the laws of the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2006. TrAIL was formed in connection with the management and financing of a new 500kV transmission line. On May 19, 2011, TrAIL completed the construction and energized the transmission line. The transmission line extends approximately 150 miles from southwestern Pennsylvania through West Virginia to a point of interconnection with Virginia Electric and Power Company, a subsidiary of Dominion Resources, in northern Virginia. TrAIL complies with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC, FERC, WVPSC, VSCC and PPUC, as applicable.

FES was organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1997. FES provides energy-related products and services to wholesale and retail customers. FES also owns and operates, through its subsidiary, FGCO, fossil and hydroelectric generating facilities and owns, through its subsidiary, NGC, FirstEnergy's nuclear generating facilities. FENOC, a separate subsidiary of FirstEnergy, organized under the laws of the State of Ohio in 1998, operates and maintains NGC's nuclear generating facilities. FES purchases the entire output of the generation facilities owned by FGCO and NGC, as well as the output relating to leasehold interests of OE and TE in certain of those facilities that are subject to sale and leaseback arrangements with non-affiliates, pursuant to full output, cost-of-service PSAs.

AE Supply was organized under the laws of the State of Delaware in 1999. AE Supply provides energy-related products and services to wholesale and retail customers. AE Supply also owns and operates fossil and hydroelectric generating facilities and purchases and sells energy and energy-related commodities.

AGC was organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1981. AGC is owned approximately 59% by AE Supply and approximately 41% by MP. AGC's sole asset is a 40% undivided interest in the Bath County, Virginia pumped-storage hydroelectric generation facility and its connecting transmission facilities. AGC provides the generation capacity from this facility to AE Supply and MP.

Competitive and Regulated Generation

FirstEnergy's generating portfolio includes 22,810 MW of diversified capacity (Competitive — 19,874 MW and Regulated — 2,936 MW), including 3,349 MW (Competitive - 2,689 MW and Regulated - 660 MW) of capacity that is planned to be retired by September 1, 2012, subject to review of reliability impacts by PJM (See Part I, Item 2. Properties). Of the generation asset portfolio, approximately 14,678 MW (64.4%), consist of coal-fired capacity; 3,991 MW (17.5%) consist of nuclear capacity; 1,832 MW (8.0%) consist of hydroelectric capacity; 1,745 MW (7.7%) consist of oil and natural gas units; 376 MW (1.6%) consist of wind facilities; and 188 MW (0.8%) consist of capacity from FGCO's 4.85% and AE's 3.5% entitlements to the generation output owned by OVEC. All units are located within PJM and sell electric energy, capacity and other products into the wholesale markets that are operated

#### by PJM.

Within the Competitive portfolio, 12,368 MW consist of FES' facilities that are operated by FENOC and FGCO (including entitlements to OVEC), except for portions of certain facilities that are subject to the sale and leaseback arrangements with non-affiliates referred to above for which the corresponding output is available to FES through power sale agreements, and are owned directly by NGC and FGCO, respectively. 7,506 MW consist of AE Supply's facilities, including 660 MW from AGC's Bath County, Virginia hydroelectric facility that AE Supply partially owns. FES' generating facilities are concentrated primarily in Ohio and Pennsylvania and AE Supply's primarily in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland.

Within the Regulated portfolio, 200 MW consist of JCP&L's 50% ownership interest in the Yards Creek hydroelectric facility in New Jersey; 2,725 MW consist of MP's facilities, including 450 MW from AGC's Bath County, Virginia hydroelectric facility that MP partially owns. MP's facilities are concentrated primarily in West Virginia. 11 MW consist of AE's 3.5% entitlement to OVEC's generation output.

FES, FGCO, NGC, AE Supply and AGC comply with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the SEC and the FERC. In addition, NGC and FENOC comply with the regulations, orders, policies and practices prescribed by the NRC.

FESC and AESC provide legal, financial and other corporate support services to affiliated FirstEnergy companies. Reference is made to Note 19, Segment Information, of the Combined Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for information regarding FirstEnergy's reportable segments, which information is incorporated herein by reference. Utility Regulation

#### State Regulation

Each of the Utilities' retail rates, conditions of service, issuance of securities and other matters are subject to regulation in the states in which each company operates — in Maryland by the MDPSC, in Ohio by the PUCO, in New Jersey by the NJBPU, in Pennsylvania by the PPUC, in West Virginia by the WVPSC and in New York by the NYPSC. The transmission operations of PE in Virginia are subject to certain regulations of the VSCC. In addition, under Ohio law, municipalities may regulate rates of a public utility, subject to appeal to the PUCO if not acceptable to the utility. As a competitive retail electric supplier serving retail customers primarily in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey and Maryland, FES and AE Supply are subject to state laws applicable to competitive electric suppliers in those states, including affiliate codes of conduct that apply to FES, AE Supply and its public utility affiliates. In addition, if FES, AE Supply or any of its subsidiaries were to engage in the construction of significant new generation facilities, they would also be subject to state siting authority.

#### Federal Regulation

With respect to their wholesale and interstate electric operations and rates, the Utilities, AE Supply, ATSI, AGC, FES, FGCO, NGC, PATH and TrAIL are subject to regulation by the FERC. Under the FPA, the FERC regulates rates for interstate sales at wholesale, transmission of electric power, accounting and other matters, including construction and operation of hydroelectric projects. The FERC regulations require ATSI, JCP&L, Met-Ed, MP, PATH, PE, Penelec, WP and TrAIL to provide open access transmission service at FERC-approved rates, terms and conditions. Through May 31, 2011, transmission service over ATSI's facilities was provided by MISO under its open access transmission tariff. For JCP&L, Met-Ed, MP, PATH, PE, Penelec, WP and TrAIL and, effective June 1, 2011 for ATSI, transmission service is provided by PJM under its open access transmission tariff. The FERC also regulates unbundled transmission service to retail customers. See FERC Matters RTO Realignment below.

The FERC regulates the sale of power for resale in interstate commerce in part by granting authority to public utilities to sell wholesale power at market-based rates upon a showing that the seller cannot exert market power in generation or transmission. OE, CEI, TE, Penn, JCP&L, MetEd, Penelec, MP, WP, and PE each have been authorized by FERC to sell wholesale power in interstate commerce and have a market-based rates tariff on file with the FERC; although major wholesale purchases and sales remain subject to regulation by the relevant state commissions. AE Supply, FES, FGCO and NGC each have been authorized by the FERC to sell wholesale power in interstate commerce and have a market-based power in interstate commerce and have a market-based power in interstate commerce and have a market-based rates tariff on file with the FERC; although major wholesale purchases and sales remain subject to regulation by the relevant state commissions. AE Supply, FES, FGCO and NGC each have been authorized by the FERC to sell wholesale power in interstate commerce and have a market-based tariff on file with the FERC. By virtue of this tariff and authority to sell wholesale power, each company is regulated as a public utility under the FPA. However, consistent with its historical practice, the FERC has granted AE Supply, FES, FGCO and NGC a waiver from most of the reporting, record-keeping and accounting requirements that typically apply to traditional public utilities. Along with market-based rate authority, the FERC also granted AE Supply, FES, FGCO and NGC blanket authority to issue securities and assume liabilities under Section 204 of the FPA. As a condition to selling electricity on a wholesale basis at market-based rates, AE Supply, FES, FGCO and NGC, like all other entities granted market-based rate authority, must file electronic quarterly reports with the FERC, listing their sales transactions for the prior quarter.

The nuclear generating facilities owned and leased by NGC are subject to extensive regulation by the NRC. The NRC subjects nuclear generating stations to continuing review and regulation covering, among other things, operations, maintenance, emergency planning, security and environmental and radiological aspects of those stations. The NRC may modify, suspend or revoke operating licenses and impose civil penalties for failure to comply with the Atomic Energy Act, the regulations under such Act or the terms of the licenses. FENOC is the licensee for the operating nuclear plants and has direct compliance responsibility for NRC matters. FES controls the economic dispatch of NGC's plants. See Nuclear Regulation below.

#### Regulatory Accounting

The Utilities, ATSI, PATH and TrAIL recognize, as regulatory assets, costs which the FERC, PUCO, PPUC MDPSC, WVPSC and NJBPU have authorized for recovery from customers in future periods or for which authorization is probable. Without the probability of such authorization, costs currently recorded as regulatory assets would have been charged to income as incurred. All regulatory assets are expected to be recovered from customers under the Utilities' respective transition and regulatory plans. Based on those plans, the Utilities, ATSI, PATH and TrAIL continue to bill and collect cost-based rates for their transmission and distribution services, which remain regulated; accordingly, it is appropriate that the Utilities, ATSI, PATH and TrAIL continue the application of regulatory accounting to those operations.

FirstEnergy accounts for the effects of regulation through the application of regulatory accounting to the Utilities, ATSI, PATH and TrAIL since each of their rates are established by a third-party regulator with the authority to set rates that bind customers, are cost-

based and can be charged to and collected from customers.

An enterprise meeting all of these criteria capitalizes costs that would otherwise be charged to expense (regulatory assets) if the rate actions of its regulator make it probable that those costs will be recovered in future revenue. Regulatory accounting is applied only to the parts of the business that meet the above criteria. If a portion of the business applying regulatory accounting no longer meets those requirements, previously recorded net regulatory assets are removed from the balance sheet in accordance with GAAP.

**Reliability Initiatives** 

Federally-enforceable mandatory reliability standards apply to the bulk electric system and impose certain operating, record-keeping and reporting requirements on the Utilities, FES, AE Supply, FGCO, FENOC, ATSI and TrAIL. The NERC is the ERO designated by FERC to establish and enforce these reliability standards, although NERC has delegated day-to-day implementation and enforcement of these reliability standards to eight regional entities, including RFC. All of FirstEnergy's facilities are located within the RFC region. FirstEnergy actively participates in the NERC and RFC stakeholder processes, and otherwise monitors and manages its companies in response to the ongoing development, implementation and enforcement of the reliability standards implemented and enforced by the RFC.

FirstEnergy believes that it is in compliance with all currently-effective and enforceable reliability standards. Nevertheless, in the course of operating its extensive electric utility systems and facilities, FirstEnergy occasionally learns of isolated facts or circumstances that could be interpreted as excursions from the reliability standards. If and when such items are found, FirstEnergy develops information about the item and develops a remedial response to the specific circumstances, including in appropriate cases "self-reporting" an item to RFC. Moreover, it is clear that the NERC, RFC and FERC will continue to refine existing reliability standards as well as to develop and adopt new reliability standards. The financial impact of complying with future new or amended standards cannot be determined at this time; however, 2005 amendments to the FPA provide that all prudent costs incurred to comply with the future reliability standards be recovered in rates. Any future inability on FirstEnergy's part to comply with the reliability standards for its bulk power system could result in the imposition of financial penalties that could have a material adverse effect on its financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

On December 9, 2008, a transformer at JCP&L's Oceanview substation failed, resulting in an outage on certain bulk electric system (transmission voltage) lines out of the Oceanview and Atlantic substations resulting in customers losing power for up to eleven hours. On March 31, 2009, the NERC initiated a Compliance Violation Investigation in order to determine JCP&L's contribution to the electrical event and to review any potential violation of NERC Reliability Standards associated with the event. NERC has submitted first and second Requests for Information regarding this and another related matter. JCP&L is complying with these requests. JCP&L is not able to predict what actions, if any, the NERC may take with respect to this matter.

On August 23, 2010, FirstEnergy self-reported to RFC a vegetation encroachment event on a Met-Ed 230 kV line. This event did not result in a fault, outage, operation of protective equipment, or any other meaningful electric effect on any FirstEnergy transmission facilities or systems. On August 25, 2010, RFC issued a notice of enforcement to investigate the incident. FirstEnergy submitted a data response to RFC on September 27, 2010. On July 8, 2011, RFC and Met-Ed signed a settlement agreement to resolve all outstanding issues related to the vegetation encroachment event. The settlement calls for Met-Ed to pay a penalty of \$650,000, and for FirstEnergy to perform certain mitigating actions. These mitigating actions include inspecting FirstEnergy's transmission system using LiDAR technology, and reporting the results of inspections, and any follow-up work, to RFC. FirstEnergy was performing the LiDAR work in response to certain other industry directives issued by NERC in 2010. NERC subsequently approved the settlement agreement and, on September 30, 2011, submitted the approved settlement to FERC for final approval. FERC approved the settlement agreement on October 28, 2011. Met-Ed subsequently paid the \$650,000 penalty and, on December 31, 2011, RFC sent written notice that this matter has been closed.

In 2011, RFC performed routine compliance audits of parts of FirstEnergy's bulk-power system and generally found the audited systems and process to be in full compliance with all audited reliability standards. RFC will perform additional audits in 2012.

### Maryland Regulatory Matters

By statute enacted in 2007, the obligation of Maryland utilities to provide SOS to residential and small commercial customers, in exchange for recovery of their costs plus a reasonable profit, was extended indefinitely. The legislation also established a 5-year cycle (to begin in 2008) for the MDPSC to report to the legislature on the status of SOS. PE now conducts rolling auctions to procure the power supply necessary to serve its customer load pursuant to a plan approved by the MDPSC. However, the terms on which PE will provide SOS to residential customers after the current settlement expires at the end of 2012 will depend on developments with respect to SOS in Maryland over the coming year, including but not limited to, possible MDPSC decisions in the proceedings discussed below.

The MDPSC opened a new docket in August 2007 to consider matters relating to possible "managed portfolio" approaches to SOS and other matters. "Phase II" of the case addressed utility purchases or construction of generation, bidding for procurement of demand response resources and possible alternatives if the TrAIL and PATH projects were delayed or defeated. It is unclear when the MDPSC will issue its findings in this proceeding.

In September 2009, the MDPSC opened a new proceeding to receive and consider proposals for construction of new generation resources in Maryland. In December 2009, Governor Martin O'Malley filed a letter in this proceeding in which he characterized the electricity market in Maryland as a "failure" and urged the MDPSC to use its existing authority to order the construction of new generation in Maryland, vary the means used by utilities to procure generation and include more renewables in the generation mix. In December 2010, the MDPSC issued an order soliciting comments on a model RFP for solicitation of long-term energy commitments by Maryland electric utilities. PE and numerous other parties filed comments, and on September 29, 2011, the MDPSC issued an order requiring the utilities to issue the RFP crafted by the MDPSC by October 7, 2011. The RFPs were issued by the utilities as ordered by the MDPSC. The order, as amended, indicated that bids were due by January 20, 2012, and that the MDPSC would be the entity evaluating all bids. The Chairman of the MDPSC has stated publicly that several bids were received, but no other information was released. After receipt of further comments from interested parties, including PE, on January 13, 2012, a hearing on whether more generation is needed, irrespective of what bids may have been received, was held on January 31, 2012. There has been no further action on this matter.

In September 2007, the MDPSC issued an order that required the Maryland utilities to file detailed plans for how they will meet the "EmPOWER Maryland" proposal that electric consumption be reduced by 10% and electricity demand be reduced by 15%, in each case by 2015.

The Maryland legislature in 2008 adopted a statute codifying the EmPOWER Maryland goals. In 2008, PE filed its comprehensive plans for attempting to achieve those goals, asking the MDPSC to approve programs for residential, commercial, industrial, and governmental customers, as well as a customer education program. The MDPSC ultimately approved the programs in August 2009 after certain modifications had been made as required by the MDPSC, and approved cost recovery for the programs in October 2009. Expenditures were estimated to be approximately \$101 million for the PE programs for the period of 2009 to 2015 and would be recovered over that six year period. Meanwhile, after extensive meetings with the MDPSC Staff and other stakeholders, PE's plans for additional and improved programs for the period 2012-2014 were filed on August 31, 2011. The MDPSC held hearings on PE's and the other utilities' plans in October 2011, and on December 22, 2011, issued an order approving Potomac Edison's plan with various modifications and follow-up assignments. On January 23, 2012, PE filed a Request for Rehearing because additional facts not considered by the MDPSC demonstrate, among other things, that conservation voltage reduction program expenditures should be accorded cost recovery of those expenditures being addressed in a future base rate case as the MDPSC found in its order.

In March 2009, the MDPSC issued an order temporarily suspending the right of all electric and gas utilities in the state to terminate service to residential customers for non-payment of bills. The MDPSC subsequently issued an order making various rule changes relating to terminations, payment plans, and customer deposits that make it more difficult for Maryland utilities to collect deposits or to terminate service for non-payment. The MDPSC is continuing to collect data on payment plan and related issues and has adopted regulations that expand the summer and winter "severe weather" termination moratoria when temperatures are very high or very low, from one day, as provided by statute, to three days on each occurrence.

The Maryland legislature passed a bill on April 11, 2011, which requires the MDPSC to promulgate rules by July 1, 2012 that address service interruptions, downed wire response, customer communication, vegetation management, equipment inspection, and annual reporting. In crafting the regulations, the legislation directs the MDPSC to consider cost-effectiveness, and provides that the MDPSC may adopt different standards for different utilities based on such factors as system design and existing infrastructure, geography, and customer density. Beginning in July 2013, the MDPSC is required to assess each utility's compliance with the new rules, and may assess penalties of up to \$25,000 per day per violation. The MDPSC convened a working group of utilities, regulators, and other interested stakeholders to address the topics of the proposed rules. A draft of the rules was filed, along with the report of the working group, on October 27, 2011. Hearings to consider the rules and comments occurred over four days between December 8 and 15, 2011, after which revised rules were sent for legislative review. The proposed rules were published in the Maryland Register on February 24, 2012, and a deadline of March 26, 2012, was set for the filing of further

comments. A further hearing is required before the rules could become final. Separately, on July 7, 2011, the MDPSC adopted draft rules requiring monitoring and inspections for contact voltage. The draft rules were published in September, 2011. After a further hearing in October, 2011, the final rules were re-published and became effective on November 28, 2011.

New Jersey Regulatory Matters

On September 8, 2011, the Division of Rate Counsel filed a Petition with the NJBPU asserting that it has reason to believe that JCP&L is earning an unreasonable return on its New Jersey jurisdictional rate base. The Division of Rate Counsel requests that the NJBPU order JCP&L to file a base rate case petition so that the NJBPU may determine whether JCP&L's current rates for electric service are just and reasonable. JCP&L filed an answer to the Petition on September 28, 2011, stating, inter alia, that the Division of Rate Counsel analysis upon which it premises its Petition contains errors and inaccuracies, that JCP&L's achieved return on equity is currently within a reasonable range, and that there is no reason for the NJBPU to require JCP&L to file a base rate case at this time. On November 30, 2011, the NJBPU ordered that the matter be assigned to the NJBPU President to act as presiding officer to set and modify the schedule for this matter as appropriate, decide upon motions, and otherwise control the conduct of this case, without the need for full Board approval. The matter is pending and a schedule for further proceedings has not yet been established.

On September 22, 2011, the NJBPU ordered that JCP&L hire a Special Reliability Master, subject to NJBPU approval, to evaluate

JCP&L's design, operating, maintenance and performance standards as they pertain to the Morristown, New Jersey underground electric distribution system, and make recommendations to JCP&L and the NJBPU on the appropriate courses of action necessary to ensure adequate reliability and safety in the Morristown underground network. On October 12, 2011, the Special Reliability Master was selected and on January 31, 2012, the project report was submitted to the Company and NJBPU Staff. On February 10, 2012, the NJBPU accepted the report and directed the Staff to present recommendations on March 12, 2012, on actions required by JCP&L to ensure the safe, reliable operation of the Morristown network.

Pursuant to a formal Notice issued by the NJBPU on September 14, 2011, public hearings were held on September 26 and 27, 2011, to solicit public comments regarding the state of preparedness and responsiveness of the local electric distribution companies prior to, during and after Hurricane Irene. By subsequent Notice issued September 28, 2011, additional hearings were held in October 2011. Additionally, the NJBPU accepted written comments through October 31, 2011 related to this inquiry. On December 4, 2011, the NJBPU Division of Reliability and Security issued a Request for Qualifications soliciting bid proposals from qualified consulting firms to provide expertise in the review and evaluation of New Jersey's electric distribution companies' preparation and restoration to Hurricane Irene and the October 2011 snowstorm. Responsive bids were submitted on January 20, 2012, and the report of selected bidder is to be submitted to the NJPBU 120 days from the date the contract is awarded. On December 14, 2011, the NJBPU Staff filed a report of its preliminary findings and recommendations with respect to the electric utility companies' planning and response to Hurricane Irene and the October 2011 snowstorm. The NJBPU has not indicated what additional action, if any, may be taken as a result of information obtained through this process.