Merom Brachman, *Chairman* Mark A. Vander Laan, *Vice Chairman* Bruce E. Bailey Megan C. Kelley Mary M. Ross-Dolen Elizabeth E. Tracy



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ETHICS COMMISSION ACTS ON DISCLOSURES FOR FUTURE PUCO NOMINEES

At its meeting today, the Ohio Ethics Commission affirmed by <u>resolution</u> its request to the statutory Nominating Council that considers members for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") for it to have access to the same personal data that a member of the PUCO would be required to report to the Ethics Commission.

Executive Director Paul M. Nick stated, "the Commission's objective is that providing such information early would be helpful in aim of transparency in avoidance of conflicts of interest." The Commission authorized its Chairman to convey the objective of the resolution to the Nominating Council, so it may determine when to ask an applicant to provide the same specific personal data that the Ethics Commission is authorized to receive and confirm annually from any appointee to the PUCO.

The Commission staff will review these statements and notify the Nominating Council of any determination that a potential conflict of interest exists. Ethics Commission Chairman Merom Brachman noted, "the Resolution going to the Nominating Council is timely for its consideration of applicants for the next PUCO position to be filled in 2025."

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