

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 24-121

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A NATURAL GAS
AGGREGATION AGREEMENT WITH A SUPPLIER RECOMMENDED
BY ENERGY ALLIANCES, INC.**

WHEREAS: On _____ the voters of Fairfield Township established an opt-out natural gas aggregation program in order to provide negotiated rates to the Township's residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS: The Township has engaged Energy Alliances, as a consultant for its natural gas aggregation program; and

WHEREAS: Energy Alliances, Inc. is currently seeking rates for a natural gas supplier for the Township; and

WHEREAS: during the past heating season, Duke Energy underestimated the demand for natural gas and is entitled to request and collect an adjustment to previous rates per the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio; and

WHEREAS: Duke Energy has recently applied to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio for a .12-.17 cent rate adjustment and collection on natural gas customers for gas already consumed and purchased; and

WHEREAS: Due to the market volatility and to optimize the Township's ability to obtain the lowest pricing available, the Board desires to authorize the Township Administrator to enter into a natural gas aggregation agreement with a natural gas supplier to minimize costs on all aggregation program members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Fairfield Township, Butler County, Ohio, as follows;

SECTION 1: That the Township Administrator is authorized and directed to enter into a natural gas aggregation agreement with a natural gas supplier as recommended by Energy Alliances, Inc.

SECTION 2: The Board hereby dispenses with the requirement that this resolution be read on two separate days, pursuant to RC 504.10, and authorizes the adoption of this resolution upon its first reading.

SECTION 3 This resolution is the subject of the general authority granted to the Board of Trustees through the Ohio Revised Code and not the specific authority granted to the Board of Trustees through the status as a Limited Home Rule Township.

SECTION 4: That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including §121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

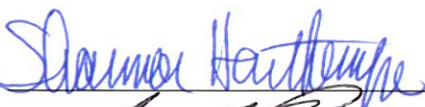
SECTION 5: This resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, pursuant to R.C. 504.11, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Fairfield Township.

SECTION 6: This resolution shall take effect at the earliest period allowed by law.

Adopted: August 13, 2024

Board of Trustees

Vote of Trustees

Shannon Hartkemeyer: 

yes

Michael Berding: 

yes

Joe McAbee: 

yes

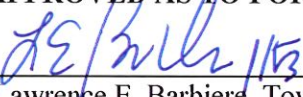
AUTHENTICATION

This is to certify that this is a resolution which was duly passed and filed with the Fairfield Township Fiscal Officer this 13th day of August, 2024.

ATTEST:


Shelly Schultz, Fairfield Township Fiscal Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Lawrence E. Barbieri, Township Assistant Law Director



CONFIDENTIAL

**GOVERNMENT AGGREGATION
MASTER RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT**

This Government Aggregation Master Retail Natural Gas Supply Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into as of the following date: August 7, 2024 (“Effective Date”). The parties are the following:

<p>AEP Energy, Inc. (“AEP Energy”)</p>	<p>Fairfield Township (Butler), OH (“Government Aggregator”)</p> <p>Federal Tax ID: 31-6000572</p>
<p><u>Address for Notices:</u></p> <p>1 Riverside Plaza 20th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 Attn: Legal Department</p> <p>Toll Free number: 1-877-726-0214 AEPenergy.com/help</p>	<p><u>Address for Notices:</u></p> <p>6932 Morris Road FF Township, OH 45011 Attn: Julie Vonderhaar Phone: 513-887-4400 Email: jvonderhaar@fairfieldtwp.org</p>

**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR GOVERNMENT AGGREGATION
MASTER RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT**

All capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined in the sections in which they initially appear shall have the meanings as defined by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (“PUCO”) at the time of the Effective Date. AEP Energy is certified by the PUCO as a Competitive Retail Natural Gas Service (“CRNGS”) Provider to sell competitive retail natural gas service to customers in the State of Ohio. AEP Energy is an affiliate of AEP Ohio, but is not soliciting on behalf of and is not an agent of AEP Ohio. This Agreement as well as each Attachment A and all other attachments, tables, schedules, exhibits, other supplements and related credit support arrangements (each, an “Attachment”) shall form a single agreement between the parties (collectively referred to as this “Agreement”).

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1 - OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

1.1 Government Aggregator Obligations. The Government Aggregator is certified and shall maintain its certification by the PUCO as a government aggregator in connection with retail natural gas supply sales for the duration of this Agreement pursuant to Section 4929.26, et. seq. of the Ohio Revised Code and rule 4901: 1-27-01, et. seq., of the Ohio Administrative Code. The Government Aggregator shall establish and sustain an opt-out aggregation program within its municipal or political subdivision boundaries of the Government Aggregator for its residents and small commercial businesses (the “Opt-out Aggregation Program” or “Program”). The Government Aggregator shall designate AEP Energy as the CRNGS Provider of record for purpose of supplying competitive retail natural gas service to its residents and small commercial

businesses (as defined in the relevant Attachment A). The Government Aggregator shall adopt, or has adopted, an operation and governance plan (the “Plan”) in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code and the Plan has been filed with the PUCO. In coordination with the Government Aggregator, AEP Energy may send out enrollment forms to the prospective Customers (as hereinafter defined) or any notices on behalf of the Government Aggregator. During the Term (as hereinafter defined), the right to supply competitive retail natural gas service for the Program shall be exclusive to AEP Energy. Government Aggregator agrees and acknowledges that no services shall be provided by AEP Energy to Customers until Government Aggregator has met all certification requirements to provide such Program in its jurisdictional territory. Government Aggregator shall not enter into any type of competitive retail natural gas service supply arrangement with a CRNGS Provider other

than AEP Energy on behalf of its residents and small commercial businesses for the provision of the services described hereunder during the Term. During the Term, Government Aggregator shall not directly or indirectly encourage or in any way attempt to persuade either prospective Customers to opt out of the Program or Customers to discontinue their service with AEP Energy, other than notifying prospective Customers of their right to “opt-out” and by responding to related inquiries with factual information about the services.

1.2 Opt-out and Required Customer Notifications. The Government Aggregator shall provide, or shall cause to be provided, to AEP Energy a list of all the eligible residents and small commercial businesses for participation in the Opt-out Aggregation Program. AEP Energy reserves the right to remove from such list any ineligible participants, including those not current in their NGDC (as hereinafter defined) charges. Either AEP Energy or the Government Aggregator, in compliance with Ohio law, shall then notify such remaining prospective Customers of the Program and shall inform them of their right to opt-out, as well as their right to rescind the switch request from AEP Energy within the designated time period. Residents and small commercial businesses that do not opt out and participate in the Program (“Customers”) shall be informed of the terms and conditions for service including pricing and term duration.

Following the initial opt-out process conducted by AEP Energy, AEP Energy may, in its sole discretion, conduct subsequent opt-outs at various times throughout the remaining Term (“Refresh Opt Outs”), and, if conducted, such Refresh Opt Out(s) shall provide to newly eligible customers the opportunity to participate in the Program. All Refresh Opt Outs shall be conducted in the same manner as the initial opt out.

Any eligible residential or non-mercantile commercial customer that is located within the service territory of the incumbent local natural gas public utility or any successor distribution company or entity responsible for distribution and delivery of natural gas to customers (“NGDC”) and the Government Aggregator’s jurisdictional territory at the time of any Refresh Opt Out (including any eligible customer who opens a new account or who was formerly a member of the Program that moves to a new location, each within the NGDC’s service territory and Government Aggregator’s jurisdictional territory, a “Newly Eligible Customer”) will be included in such Refresh Opt Out; provided, however, that no Refresh Opt Out notifications shall be sent to current Customers already participating in the Program or eligible residential or non-mercantile commercial customers that have previously (at such customer’s same service address or account) opted out of, or rescinded under, the Program. As related to any Newly Eligible Customer, the price and term end date shall be subject to any amendments or revisions otherwise permitted under this Agreement and shall continue for the remainder of the Term.

Should this Agreement be renewed for subsequent periods, to the extent required by applicable law, government rule, or regulation, any person enrolled in the Program shall have the opportunity to opt out of the Program, without paying a switching fee. The notice/disclosure required above shall also include a stated procedure for such opportunity to opt out of the Program.

1.3 Customer Historical Consumption and Consumption Forecast Information. The parties shall obtain the consent of all prospective Customers to obtain and verify the usage data and historical consumption and consumption forecast information, related to the Customer’s usage, from the NGDC or other supplier. Government Aggregator shall promptly provide to AEP Energy any notices from the NGDC in connection with prospective Customer accounts, including any verbal or written notices

regarding transition costs, changes in terms of service, tariff changes, any rate changes, or reliability concerns on the NGDC system.

1.4 AEP Energy Obligations. Pursuant to the terms herein and for the duration of this Agreement, AEP Energy agrees to supply to each Customer the commodity portion of its natural gas supply service (the “Retail Natural Gas Supply”). The Retail Natural Gas Supply is delivered to the NGDC’s distribution system’s interconnection point (each, a “Delivery Point”), and the relevant NGDC is responsible for delivery of the Retail Natural Gas Supply to each Customer’s meter at and from that point, as well as for responding to emergencies. The Government Aggregator agrees and acknowledges that the NGDC will provide distribution services to such delivery point. To the extent that any services or requirements are provided by the NGDC, AEP Energy shall not be responsible for the provision of such services. AEP Energy shall not be responsible for services provided by the NGDC, or the consequences of such performance or failure to perform. AEP Energy is under no obligation to provide Retail Natural Gas Supply and related services hereunder until Government Aggregator has been certified by the PUCO. AEP Energy is and shall maintain its status as a certified CRNGS by the PUCO and shall comply with the rules of the PUCO. Customers enrolled in the Program shall receive services at the rate(s) set forth in the relevant Attachment A.

1.5 Customer Service Requests. Customers may contact AEP Energy directly regarding the terms of this Agreement and the services provided hereunder at the address listed above, which address and phone number shall be provided to Customers regarding the Program. Requests and inquiries regarding distribution services, including emergencies, service maintenance, metering, service billing or other similar NGDC related concerns should be addressed directly with the NGDC.

1.6 Customer Affirmative Consent Enrollment. The parties agree that AEP Energy may, in its sole discretion, enroll in the Program such prospective Customers (as AEP Energy may determine) that are within the Government Aggregator’s jurisdictional territory by affirmative consent in accordance with rule 4901:1-29-06 of the Ohio Administrative Code, as amended or revised, which prospective Customers will be offered such rates, charges, and other service terms and conditions for the remainder of the relevant Term (including conditions for enrollment and eligibility for supply) as are agreed to by the applicable prospective Customers and AEP Energy.

ARTICLE 2 - TERM AND TERMINATION

2.1 Term of Agreement and Termination. The term of this Agreement (the “Term”) shall commence on the Effective Date and shall remain in effect until the later of: (i) the end of the next calendar month immediately following the end date of supply for the Customer with the latest Billing Cycle (as hereinafter defined) under the relevant Attachment A; or (ii) as set forth elsewhere in this Agreement, unless otherwise terminated or extended as set forth herein; provided, however, that no Customer shall be served by AEP Energy for more than the number of months set forth in the relevant Attachment A without the Customer having an opportunity to opt out of the aggregation without paying a switching fee. “Billing Cycle” means, with respect to each Customer account, the monthly period between meter read dates during the term of the relevant Customer agreement. AEP Energy shall use commercially reasonable efforts to commence service with respect to each Customer no later than on the first available meter read date, as determined by the NGDC, expected to be on or after the date set forth in the relevant Attachment A, and after AEP Energy receives confirmation that the NGDC has completed its processing and has accepted the delivery service

request. The Government Aggregator and AEP Energy may extend the Term for additional periods of time by written agreement approved and executed by each party. AEP Energy shall continue to serve Customers enrolled in the Program until the Customer exercises its rights to opt-out or terminate, or the Program is terminated by the parties hereto in which case Customers may choose another CRNGS or will be switched to NGDC service in accordance with the standard switching rules and applicable notices. A Customer may be removed on an individual basis based on a failure to adhere to the terms and conditions of service. Termination of this Agreement shall not relieve Customers or either party of the obligation(s) to pay amounts owed for actual performance of obligations rendered prior to the termination of this Agreement.

2.2 Change in Law or Regulation. In the event of any new, or any change in any existing, law, statute, rule, regulation, order, decision (including any judgment or judicial decision), decree, tariff, charge, or rate class, or process, practice, procedure, protocol, design, or structure, or other event, including any change in any formula rate calculation or charge or any change in any interpretation or application of any of the foregoing, by any governmental authority, court, NGDC, or other regulated service provider (a "Change in Law"), where such Change in Law results in AEP Energy incurring additional or increased costs or expenses or other adverse economic effects relating to providing the services contemplated herein (collectively, "Additional Costs"), then AEP Energy may pass through to Customers any such Additional Costs. Furthermore, Additional Costs may be assessed to Customers as prescribed by the PUCO.

2.3 Termination Events. In the event any of the following conditions occur during the Term, AEP Energy shall have the right to terminate this Agreement without liability and close out its obligations hereunder:

- (i) The NGDC will not provide consolidated billing consistent with previous practice;
- (ii) The Government Aggregator does not receive the required certification, authorization and/or approval to move forward with the Program; or
- (iii) Due to the interpretation of any applicable law by any judicial or governmental authority with competent jurisdiction, it becomes unlawful for AEP Energy to perform any obligation under this Agreement.

2.4 Termination Notices. In the event of termination hereunder, the terminating party shall exercise its best efforts to communicate to the non-terminating party the upcoming possibility of termination. In the event that this Agreement is terminated prior to the end of the Term, each Customer will be provided written notification from the terminating party of the termination of this Agreement at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to termination, and in compliance with other regulatory or legal requirements and Customers will also be notified of their right to return to the NGDC or to select an alternate CRNGS Provider. All other notification(s) shall be in accordance with PUCO requirements.

ARTICLE 3 - DELIVERY TERM

3.1 Delivery Term. During the Term and on and after the actual switch date(s), AEP Energy shall provide competitive retail natural gas service and related services to the Customers, and shall arrange for distribution service to the Customers by the NGDC.

3.2 Customer Pricing. During the Term, AEP Energy shall provide competitive retail natural gas service and related services to all Customers at the price set forth on the relevant Attachment A (the "Price").

ARTICLE 4 - BILLING AND PAYMENTS

4.1 Pass-through Costs.

Each Customer shall be responsible for payments to the NGDC and shall be solely responsible for late charges, interests, or penalties imposed by the NGDC as a result of such Customer's failure to timely pay the NGDC charges. If such late charges, interests, or penalties are directed to AEP Energy as the CRNGS, then such Customer shall reimburse AEP Energy for any amounts paid. Any charges, fees, penalties, damages, credits, rebates or refunds arising from service to such Customer by the NGDC and/or other provider(s) prior to switch date shall be the responsibility of such Customer or accrue to the benefit of such Customer as appropriate. Each Customer shall use commercially reasonable efforts to respond to these obligations directly with the NGDC and/or other provider(s). If such late charges, interest, or penalties are directed to AEP Energy as the CRNGS, then such Customer shall reimburse AEP Energy for any amounts paid. Each Customer shall hold AEP Energy harmless for such Customer's failure to pay these obligations in a timely fashion.

4.2 Billing. Consolidated billing shall be provided to Customers directly by the NGDC based upon the NGDC's meter read and Billing Cycle(s) for Customers. Such bills will contain both NGDC and AEP Energy charges. If a Customer fails to pay amounts due within the specified time period for said payments in accord with the NGDC's tariff and PUCO regulations, AEP Energy retains the right to assess late payment fees on amount(s) owed to AEP Energy, or deem such non-payment a Customer default. AEP Energy reserves the right to convert Customer from consolidated billing to dual billing, or from dual billing to consolidated billing if such a conversion will facilitate more timely billing, collections, and/or payment.

ARTICLE 5 - DEFAULT AND REMEDIES

5.1 Events of Default. The occurrence of any of the following shall be an "Event of Default" hereunder: (a) the failure to make, when due, any undisputed payment required pursuant to this Agreement if such failure is not remedied within five (5) business days after written notice; (b) any representation or warranty made by Government Aggregator or AEP Energy herein is false or misleading in any material respect when made or when deemed made or repeated; (c) failure of Government Aggregator or AEP Energy to perform a material obligation set forth in this Agreement for which an exclusive remedy is not otherwise provided herein, if such failure is not remedied within thirty (30) calendar days after receipt of written notice (including failure of a party to maintain PUCO certification); (d) Government Aggregator or AEP Energy (i) files a petition or otherwise commences, authorizes, or acquiesces in the commencement of a proceeding or cause of action under any bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, or similar law, or has any such petition filed or proceeding commenced against it, (ii) makes an assignment or any general arrangement for the benefit of creditors, (iii) otherwise becomes bankrupt or insolvent (however evidenced), (iv) has a liquidator, administrator, receiver, trustee, conservator, or similar official appointed with respect to it or any portion of its property or assets, regardless of whether such appointment is made in connection with a bankruptcy proceeding or reorganization for the benefit of creditors, or (v) is generally unable to pay its debts as they fall due; or (e) fraud by AEP Energy or Government Aggregator.

5.2 Rights and Remedies. If an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing, the non-defaulting party shall, at its sole discretion, have the right to do any one or more of the following: (i) to immediately

exercise any rights and remedies under this Agreement or law including equitable rights to specific performance in the case of AEP Energy to continue to serve Customers under the Program; (ii) to immediately withhold any payment or performance due to the other party under this Agreement; (iii) to terminate this Agreement by declaring a date for its early termination (an "Early Termination Date") which shall be no later than thirty (30) calendar days after notice is given; or (iv) exercise such other remedies it may have in contract, in equity, or at law.

The parties recognize that damages or other amounts to be received by AEP Energy hereunder may be difficult to measure or inadequate because this Agreement is unique and the actual damages of AEP Energy may exceed any amounts to be received by AEP Energy hereunder. Therefore, the Government Aggregator waives all of its rights to assert as a defense to an action for specific performance and injunctive relief that the amounts payable to AEP Energy hereunder are adequate to cover the actual damages of AEP Energy.

ARTICLE 6 - FORCE MAJEURE

6.1 Force Majeure. If either party is unable to perform its obligations in whole or in part due to an event of Force Majeure as defined herein, then the obligations of the affected party shall be suspended to the extent made necessary by such event. The term "Force Majeure" means any cause not within the control of the party claiming relief, including flood, earthquake, storm, drought, fire, pestilence, lightning, hurricanes, washouts, landslides and other natural catastrophes acts of God; acts of the public enemies, epidemics, riots, civil disturbance or disobedience, sabotage, terrorist acts, wars or blockades; governmental actions such as necessity to comply with any court order, law, statute, ordinance or regulation promulgated by a governmental authority; the failure of the NGDC to receive, transport, or deliver, or otherwise perform, unless due to the failure of the party claiming Force Majeure to perform such party's obligations hereunder; or any other unplanned or non-scheduled occurrence, condition, situation or threat not covered above which by the exercise of reasonable diligence such party could not have prevented or is unable to overcome. Any such event of Force Majeure shall, so far as possible, be remedied with all reasonable dispatch. None of the following shall be deemed a Force Majeure event: (a) financial distress of either party; (b) the inability of either party to make a profit or avoid a financial loss; (c) changes in the market prices of fuel or natural gas, or (d) a party's financial inability to perform its obligations under this Agreement. If either party is unable to perform any of its obligations under this Agreement due to a Force Majeure event, then said party shall notify the other party in writing as soon as possible after the start of the Force Majeure event. The written notice shall include a specific description of the cause and expected duration of the Force Majeure Event.

6.2 Curtailments and Outages. AEP Energy shall not be responsible to a Customer in the event the NGDC disconnects, suspends, curtails or reduces service to such Customer in order to facilitate construction, installation, maintenance, repair, replacement or inspection of any of the NGDC's facilities, or to maintain the safety and reliability of the NGDC's system, or due to emergencies, forced outages, or Force Majeure or for any other reason permitted by the NGDC's tariff or any other acts or omissions of the NGDC.

ARTICLE 7 - LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

7.1 DISCLAIMER AND WARRANTIES. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED FOR HEREIN, AEP ENERGY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS

AND MAKES NO WARRANTIES, WHETHER WRITTEN OR VERBAL, FOR OR WITH RESPECT TO ITS SUPPLY OF COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SERVICE OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS AGREEMENT, INCLUDING ANY EXPRESS, IMPLIED, OR STATUTORY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. AEP ENERGY DOES NOT WARRANT OR GUARANTEE THE UNINTERRUPTED DELIVERY OF COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS DURING FORCE MAJEURE EVENTS. AEP ENERGY WILL HAVE NO LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE NGDC, INCLUDING THE INTERRUPTION, TERMINATION, FAILURE TO DELIVER, OR DETERIORATION OF NGDC'S DISTRIBUTION SERVICE.

7.2 LIMITATION OF LIABILITY. UNLESS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED HEREIN, ANY LIABILITY UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL BE LIMITED BETWEEN THE PARTIES TO DIRECT, ACTUAL DAMAGES AS THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY, AND ALL OTHER REMEDIES OR DAMAGES AT LAW OR IN EQUITY ARE WAIVED. NEITHER PARTY WILL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY OR ITS AFFILIATES FOR CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, PUNITIVE, TREBLE, EXEMPLARY OR INDIRECT DAMAGES, INCLUDING LOST PROFITS OR OTHER BUSINESS INTERRUPTION DAMAGES, WHETHER IN TORT OR CONTRACT, UNDER ANY INDEMNITY PROVISIONS OR OTHERWISE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AGREEMENT. THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED ON REMEDIES AND DAMAGE MEASUREMENT WILL BE WITHOUT REGARD TO CAUSE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OF ANY PARTY, WHETHER SOLE, JOINT, CONCURRENT, ACTIVE OR PASSIVE AND SHALL SURVIVE TERMINATION, CANCELLATION, SUSPENSION, COMPLETION OR EXPIRATION OF THIS AGREEMENT. ANY DAMAGES CALCULATED HEREUNDER CONSTITUTE A REASONABLE APPROXIMATION OF THE HARM OR LOSS.

ARTICLE 8 - REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

8.1 Representations and Warranties by AEP Energy. AEP Energy hereby represents and warrants to Government Aggregator as of the Effective Date as follows:

(i) AEP Energy is a corporation, duly formed, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Illinois;

(ii) AEP Energy has all authorizations from any government authority necessary for it to legally perform its obligations under this Agreement or will obtain such authorizations in a timely manner prior to when any performance by it requiring such authorization becomes due;

(iii) The execution and delivery of, and performance under, this Agreement are within AEP Energy's powers, have been duly authorized by all necessary action and do not violate, conflict with or breach any of the terms or conditions in its governing documents or any contract to which it is a party or any government rule applicable to it;

(iv) This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by AEP Energy, and this Agreement (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery of all parties) constitutes legal, valid and binding obligations of AEP Energy enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent conveyance, reorganization and other laws affecting creditor's rights

generally and general principles of equity, regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law; and

(v) No bankruptcy is pending against it or to its knowledge threatened against it.

8.2 Representations and Warranties by Government Aggregator. Government Aggregator hereby represents and warrants to AEP Energy as of the Effective Date as follows:

(i) The Government Aggregator is duly authorized as the agent for the Customers, as a duly authorized government aggregator;

(ii) The Government Aggregator has all authorizations from any government authority necessary for it to legally perform its obligations under this Agreement;

(iii) The execution and delivery of, and performance under, this Agreement are within the Government Aggregator's powers, have been duly authorized by all necessary action and do not violate, conflict with or breach any of the terms or conditions in its governing documents or any contract to which it is a party or any government rule applicable to it. Neither the execution nor delivery by Government Aggregator of this Agreement nor the consummation by the Government Aggregator of the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby does or will result in a breach or violation of this Agreement establishing the Government Aggregator's authority, or its bylaws, or any material provision of the governance document related thereto. Notwithstanding the foregoing in this paragraph, it is understood with respect to the terms or conditions of any governance document (including the Plan), any contract, or any other document the terms of Section 10.2 shall apply and prevail;

(iv) Government Aggregator has the authority to designate, and has designated AEP Energy as its CRNGS provider for the Customers for the Term. If Government Aggregator is a governmental authority, no action taken by it will be an action by a governmental authority unless it is taken by Government Aggregator in the general exercise of its governmental police powers without a disproportionate impact on AEP Energy or this Agreement, and not in its capacity as a party to this Agreement, and no action taken by Government Aggregator's consultant(s), if any, will be an action by a governmental authority;

(v) This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by the Government Aggregator, and this Agreement (assuming due authorization, execution and delivery of all parties) constitutes legal, valid and binding obligations of the Government Aggregator, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent conveyance, reorganization and other laws affecting creditors' rights and remedies generally, to general principles of equity, regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law;

(vi) The Government Aggregator is entering into this Agreement with a full understanding of all of the risks hereof (economic and otherwise), it is capable of assuming and willing to assume those risks and AEP Energy is not acting as a fiduciary or in an advisory capacity to it;

(vii) None of the documents or other written information furnished by or on behalf of the Government Aggregator or Customers to AEP Energy pursuant to this Agreement contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact required to be stated

therein or necessary to make the statements contained herein or therein, in the light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading; and

(viii) The Government Aggregator has the contractual right to enter into this Agreement and to contract with AEP Energy to supply competitive retail natural gas service and related services to meet the obligations of Customers and there is no other aggregation program available to these Customers within the jurisdictional territory of the Government Aggregator.

ARTICLE 9 - CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

9.1 Confidentiality. Each of AEP Energy and Government Aggregator agrees, for itself and its authorized representatives, to keep all proprietary, confidential, and/or trade secret information of the disclosing party (the "Discloser") provided under or in connection with this Agreement, including the terms and provisions of this Agreement ("Confidential Information"), confidential and to use such Confidential Information solely for purposes in connection with this Agreement, except to the extent that the receiving party (the "Recipient") determines that release of such Confidential Information is required by applicable law or regulation, including the Ohio Public Records Act, O.R.C. Section 149.43 et seq. (the "Public Records Act"), subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this paragraph. For purposes of this Article 9, Confidential Information includes this Agreement (or any portion of the contents hereof) and any oral, written, electronic, graphic, or machine-readable information provided before, on, or after the date hereof relating to a party's business information or corporate structure and/or that of any of its affiliates, marketing and product development plans, information related to the calculation or pricing methodology of the Price, cost information, algorithms, or rates under this Agreement, technical data, product specifications, illustrations or other visuals, financial data and plans, correspondence, and any other information regarding the Program provided by or on behalf of the Discloser to the Recipient or developed or learned by the Recipient during the negotiations of or performance under this Agreement or the course of the Program, third-party confidential information, market share data, licenses, contract information, processes and procedures, trade secrets, proprietary "know-how", research, product or service ideas or plans, inventions, and like information concerning, or provided by or on behalf of, the Discloser, its affiliates, or their third-party consultants, contractors, or suppliers and/or that a party considers to be competitively sensitive. Government Aggregator represents that it is subject to the Public Records Act. If the Recipient, or any of its representatives to which Confidential Information has been disclosed, is requested (pursuant to the Public Records Act or otherwise) or becomes legally compelled (pursuant to applicable federal, state, or local law or regulation or a valid order issued by a court or governmental agency of competent jurisdiction) to disclose any of the Confidential Information, then the Recipient shall, to the extent legally permissible, promptly notify the Discloser in writing if it intends to release any Confidential Information to afford the Discloser an opportunity to either seek a protective order or other appropriate remedy prior to disclosure or waive compliance with the provisions of this Article 9; provided, however, that each party shall have the right to make such disclosures, if any, to government agencies and to its own agents, vendors, advisors, contractors, attorneys, auditors, accountants, and affiliates as may be reasonably necessary, so long as each party makes reasonable efforts to maintain the confidentiality of such information being so disclosed, whether by use of protective orders or otherwise, as is afforded by the process in which the disclosures are made. If the relevant protective order or other remedy is not obtained or the Discloser expressly waives in writing compliance with the provisions hereof, the Recipient, and/or each

of its representatives, will disclose no more than that portion of the Confidential Information which, on the advice of the Recipient's legal counsel, is legally required to be disclosed and will reasonably cooperate with the Discloser's efforts, at the Discloser's expense, to obtain reliable assurance that confidential treatment will be accorded the Confidential Information required to be disclosed.

ARTICLE 10 - MISCELLANEOUS

10.1 Notices. Notices shall, unless otherwise specified herein, be in writing and may be delivered by hand delivery, United States mail, overnight courier, or email to the persons and addresses listed in the introduction to this Agreement, provided however that notice by email shall only be effective if followed by written notice as aforesaid. Notice by hand delivery shall be effective at the close of business on the day actually received, if received during business hours on a business day, and otherwise shall be effective at the close of business on the next business day. Notice by overnight United States mail or other overnight courier shall be effective on the day it is received. Notice by United States mail other than overnight United States mail shall be deemed effective when so received. A party may change its addresses by providing notice of said change in accordance herewith.

10.2 Entire Agreement. No other document (including the Plan), governmental ordinance, or law applicable with respect to the jurisdictional territory or Government Aggregator shall create any obligation, duty, or qualification with respect to the Program or the relationship of the parties under this Agreement. The parties acknowledge and agree that (a) each of Government Aggregator (with respect to itself or any Customer) and AEP Energy solely and exclusively shall rely upon and be bound by the specific representations, warranties, rights, and obligations set forth in this Agreement, (b) no other representations, warranties, restrictions, covenants, undertakings, or other statements whatsoever, whether written or oral (including in the Plan or in any governmental ordinance or law applicable with respect to the jurisdictional territory or Government Aggregator), to the contrary of this Agreement or otherwise, shall be deemed to constitute a part of this Agreement, unless expressly set forth herein, and (c) this Agreement, including all Attachments hereto, contains all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement reached by the parties, and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may not be modified, amended, altered or supplemented, except by written agreement signed by all parties hereto. This Agreement constitutes a master agreement under which one or more Attachment(s) may be executed for the purpose of designating Retail Natural Gas Supply, respectively, as listed on the relevant Attachment. Any Attachments executed pursuant to this Agreement by the parties after the date hereof shall become a part of this Agreement, or replace in its entirety any previously-executed similar version. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, this Agreement is effective only upon Government Aggregator's execution and AEP Energy's subsequent execution of this Agreement.

10.3 Waivers. No waiver of any term, provision, or conditions of this Agreement, whether by conduct or otherwise, in any one or more instances, shall be deemed to be, or shall constitute a waiver of any other provision hereof, whether or not similar, nor shall such waiver constitute a continuing waiver, and no waiver shall be binding unless executed in writing by the party making the waiver. Any request for a waiver of the requirements and provisions of this Agreement shall be in writing and must be approved in writing by the non-waiving party. The failure of either party to insist upon strict performance of such requirements or provisions or to exercise any right under this Agreement shall not be

construed as a waiver or relinquishment of such requirements, provisions or rights. The non-enforcement of any provision by either party shall not constitute a waiver of that provision nor shall it affect the enforceability of that provision or the remainder of this Agreement.

10.4 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio without regard to any principles of conflicts of laws that would apply the law of another jurisdiction.

10.5 Controlling Provisions. In the event of any inconsistency between the terms herein and the terms of the Attachments hereto, the provisions of this Agreement shall control. The words "include" and "including" shall be deemed to be followed by the phrase "without limitation."

10.6 Severability. Any provision in this Agreement that is prohibited or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall, as to such jurisdiction, be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition or unenforceability without invalidating the remaining provisions or affecting the validity or enforceability of such provision in any other jurisdiction.

10.7 Assignment. This Agreement shall not be transferred or assigned by either party without the express written authorization of the other party, which authorization shall not be unreasonably withheld. Notwithstanding the foregoing, AEP Energy may, without the consent of Government Aggregator or Customers, (a) transfer, sell, pledge, encumber or assign this Agreement or the accounts, revenues or proceeds hereof in connection with any financing or other financial arrangement; (b) transfer or assign this Agreement to an affiliate of AEP Energy; or (c) transfer or assign this Agreement to any person or entity succeeding to all or a substantial portion of the assets of AEP Energy. Upon an assignment pursuant to (b) or (c), Government Aggregator and Customers agree that AEP Energy shall have no further obligations regarding future performance hereunder. Either party's assignee shall agree in writing to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including the Attachments. Subject to the foregoing, this Agreement and its Attachments shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of any permitted successors and assigns, to the extent permitted by law.

10.8 Forward Contract. The parties acknowledge and agree that (a) this Agreement constitutes a forward contract within the meaning of the United States Bankruptcy Code, and (b) AEP Energy is a forward contract merchant. Further, AEP Energy is not providing advice regarding "commodity interests," including commodity futures contracts and commodity options contracts or any other matter, which would cause it to be a "commodity trading advisor" under the U.S. Commodity Exchange Act, as amended.

10.9 Press Releases. Government Aggregator agrees and acknowledges that AEP Energy shall have the right to review and approve any press releases in connection with this Agreement prior to publication or release.

10.10 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which shall together constitute one instrument. Any counterpart may be executed and evidenced by signature transmitted by email or other electronic means as though it were an original.

10.11 No Third-Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement confers no rights or remedies whatsoever upon any person or entity other than the parties and shall not create, or be interpreted as creating, any standard of care,

duty or liability to any person or entity not a party hereto. Neither party shall be liable to a third party not a party to this Agreement for any unauthorized act or omission on the part of the other party or for any unauthorized obligation or debt incurred by the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the parties has caused this Agreement to be executed by a duly authorized representative, who, by applying his or her signature, represents and warrants full right, power, and authority to sign on behalf of the relevant party named below, effective as of the Effective Date set forth above.

AEP ENERGY, INC.
DocuSigned by:
Brian P Whitlatch
By: _____
Name: Brian P Whitlatch
Title: SVP, Customer Solutions

FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP (BUTLER), OHIO
DocuSigned by:
Julie Vonderhaar
By: _____
Name: Julie Vonderhaar
Title: Township Administrator

ATTACHMENT A:

**GOVERNMENT AGGREGATION MASTER RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT
CUSTOMER PRICING AND ADDITIONAL TERMS**

Attachment A to Government Aggregation Master Retail Natural Gas Supply Agreement

Between

Fairfield Township (Butler), OH and AEP Energy, Inc.

Term:

Twelve (12) months, expected to begin on or around the relevant October 2024 meter read date(s) (or, for Refresh Opt Out(s) or Customer(s) that enroll in the Program by affirmative consent, for a period up to the remainder of such twelve (12) month-term), subject to the timing of (i) the available meter read date(s), as determined by the NGDC, following the applicable opt-out period or enrollment date, and (ii) AEP Energy's receipt of confirmation that the NGDC has completed its processing and has accepted the relevant delivery service request(s)

Pricing:

Residential (RS): Commodity portion of natural gas service equal to \$0.5894 per Ccf

The Customer shall pay AEP Energy a charge for the commodity portion of its natural gas service that is equal to \$0.5894 per Ccf multiplied by the metered natural gas usage for the monthly Billing Cycle. Price is exclusive of distribution service charges and other non-bypassable NGDC charges and fees.

Commercial (consumption less than 5,000 Ccf or 500 Mcf annually): Commodity portion of natural gas service equal to \$0.5894 per Ccf

The Customer shall pay AEP Energy a charge for the commodity portion of its natural gas service that is equal to \$0.5894 per Ccf multiplied by the metered natural gas usage for the monthly Billing Cycle. Price is exclusive of distribution service charges and other non-bypassable NGDC charges and fees.

Administrative Services to be provided to Government Aggregator by AEP Energy during the Term:

- Design, print and mail the Opt-out letter to eligible participants, including a sheet of Frequently Asked Questions to provide assistance.
- Administer the opt-out process including database preparation, handling of opt-out form information, and final enrollment list compilation.
- Provide call center support to handle informational calls regarding the Program.
- Provide to Government Aggregator's consultant, Energy Alliances, Inc. ("Energy Alliances"), the reasonably-requested information for the annual report of intrastate gross revenues under Ohio Revised Code 4905.10 and 4911.18 and annual report under Ohio Revised Code 4929.20 on behalf of Government Aggregator.
- Government Aggregator directs AEP Energy to pay a fee (in an amount as mutually agreed in writing between AEP Energy and Energy Alliances) per Ccf delivered and paid for under the Program to Energy Alliances for services provided.

ATTACHMENT A:

**GOVERNMENT AGGREGATION MASTER RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT
CUSTOMER PRICING AND ADDITIONAL TERMS**

Attachment A to Government Aggregation Master Retail Natural Gas Supply Agreement

Between

, Ohio and AEP Energy, Inc.

Term:

Twelve (12) months, expected to begin on or around the relevant October 2024 meter read date(s) (or, for Refresh Opt Out(s) or Customer(s) that enroll in the Program by affirmative consent, for a period up to the remainder of such twelve (12) month-term), subject to the timing of (i) the available meter read date(s), as determined by the NGDC, following the applicable opt-out period or enrollment date, and (ii) AEP Energy's receipt of confirmation that the NGDC has completed its processing and has accepted the relevant delivery service request(s)

Pricing:

Residential (RS): Commodity portion of natural gas service equal to \$ _____ per Ccf

The Customer shall pay AEP Energy a charge for the commodity portion of its natural gas service that is equal to \$ _____ per Ccf multiplied by the metered natural gas usage for the monthly Billing Cycle. Price is exclusive of distribution service charges and other non-bypassable NGDC charges and fees.

Commercial (consumption less than 5,000 Ccf or 500 Mcf annually): Commodity portion of natural gas service equal to \$ _____ per Ccf

The Customer shall pay AEP Energy a charge for the commodity portion of its natural gas service that is equal to \$ _____ per Ccf multiplied by the metered natural gas usage for the monthly Billing Cycle. Price is exclusive of distribution service charges and other non-bypassable NGDC charges and fees.

Administrative Services to be provided to Government Aggregator by AEP Energy during the Term:

- Design, print and mail the Opt-out letter to eligible participants, including a sheet of Frequently Asked Questions to provide assistance.
- Administer the opt-out process including database preparation, handling of opt-out form information, and final enrollment list compilation.
- Provide call center support to handle informational calls regarding the Program.
- Provide to Government Aggregator's consultant, Energy Alliances, Inc. ("Energy Alliances"), the reasonably-requested information for the annual report of intrastate gross revenues under Ohio Revised Code 4905.10 and 4911.18 and annual report under Ohio Revised Code 4929.20 on behalf of Government Aggregator.
- Government Aggregator directs AEP Energy to pay a fee (in an amount as mutually agreed in writing between AEP Energy and Energy Alliances) per [Ccf/Mcf] delivered and paid for under the Program to Energy Alliances for services provided.