# SOUTHERN INDIANA GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a VECTREN ENERGY DELIVERY OF INDIANA, INC. (VECTREN SOUTH)

**IURC CAUSE NO. 45086** 

**SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY** 

OF

THOMAS L. BAILEY
DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL SALES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, VECTREN UTILITY

HOLDINGS, INC.

ON

SETTLEMENT TERMS RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS

CUSTOMER CONTRACTS AND CUSTOMER DESIRE

FOR RENEWABLE RESOURCES

**SPONSORING PETITIONER'S EXHIBIT NO. 12** 

#### SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY OF THOMAS L. BAILEY

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- 3 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- 4 A. My name is Thomas L. Bailey. My business address is One Vectren Square, Evansville, Indiana 47708.

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- 7 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- A. I am Director of Industrial Sales & Economic Development for Vectren Utility Holdings, Inc. ("Vectren"), the immediate parent company of the Petitioner in this Cause, Southern Indiana Gas & Electric Company d/b/a Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana, Inc. ("Vectren South" or the "Company").

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- Q. Are you the same Thomas L. Bailey that previously testified on behalf of Vectren South in this proceeding?
- 15 A. Yes, I am.

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- 17 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony at this stage of the proceeding?
- My testimony supports the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Α. 18 Agreement") entered into among Vectren South, the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer 19 Counselor ("OUCC") and Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, Inc. ("CAC") (collectively, 20 the "Settling Parities") resolving all issues in Cause No. 45086. Specifically, my 21 22 testimony discusses and provides support for the terms of the Settlement Agreement relating to the use of Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs"), as well as terms relating to 23 24 Vectren South's ability to enter into customer specific contracts with large customers that 25 desire to purchase energy produced by the Solar Project. I also broadly describe how 26 the terms of the Settlement Agreement benefit Vectren South's customers as a whole.

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#### II. RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS

30 Q. What does the Settlement Agreement provide with respect to RECs generated by the Solar Project?

A. The Settlement Agreement provides that RECs obtained by Vectren South for energy produced by the Solar Project will be utilized by Vectren South in the best interest of its customers. The Settling Parties agree this could include retaining the RECs or, after consultation with the OUCC and CAC, selling some amount of RECs to specific customers or to the REC market. The net proceeds resulting from the sale of RECs, will be used as an offset to revenue requirements and returned to customers through the Clean Energy Cost Adjustment ("CECA").

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## Q. In your opinion, is the Settling Parties' agreement with respect to use of RECs generated by the Solar Project reasonable and in the public interest?

Yes. The Settlement Agreement gives Vectren South latitude with regard to the use of RECs in order to ensure that they are used in the best interest of customers and promotes collaboration among the Settling Parties with respect to that issue. In general, it is Vectren South's intention that RECs be available for use by local industries that are interested in purchasing "green power." A number of Vectren South's large industrial customers have publicly announced renewable energy and carbon reduction goals and initiatives that require a certain percentage of their future energy consumption be green power. These customers have been extremely supportive of the Solar Project because they have told me that they prefer to work with their local utility partner to meet their green power goals. If approved, the Settlement Agreement will give Vectren South the ability to help these customers meet those goals.

If, however there is not sufficient local demand for the RECs in the future, Vectren South will explore selling them on the market after consulting with the OUCC and CAC. Revenues from such sales would be used to reduce customer costs.

### Q. Will other stakeholders be kept apprised with respect to the Company's use of RECs?

Yes. Under the Settlement Agreement, Vectren South will publicly report as part of its annual CECA filing "the total RECs proceeds (in U.S. dollars), if any, associated with solar generation at the Solar Project."

#### 1 III. CUSTOMER SPECIFIC CONTRACTS

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- Q. What does the Settlement Agreement provide with respect to entering into contracts with customers that want to purchase green energy generated by the Solar Project?
- The Settlement Agreement provides if a specific customer elects to pay directly for 5 Α. energy and/or RECs produced by the Solar Project, Vectren South will sell this energy 6 and the corresponding RECs at a rate equal to the Levelized Rate, pursuant to a specific 7 contract or rate approved by the Commission. However, each of the Settling Parties 8 reserves the right to recommend a different rate for Commission approval. All proceeds 9 from contracts for the sale of energy and/or RECs produced by the Solar Project will be 10 11 used as an offset to the Company's revenue requirements and returned to customers through the CECA. 12

14 Q. In your opinion, will the foregoing terms provide Vectren South with the flexibility
15 to meet the needs of its large customers?

Yes. This provision of the Settlement Agreement provides Vectren South with the ability to sell energy and/or RECs generated by the Solar Project at an attractive rate. As indicated in my direct testimony some of Vectren South's customers have published global initiatives, which include investment in dedicated renewable resources as part of meeting renewable energy goals by a specific target date. Vectren South also has had site selectors inquire as part of their Request for Information ("RFI") process whether the Company has solar assets and is willing to allow a prospective customer to enter into an agreement to purchase renewable energy generated by those assets. The terms of the Settlement Agreement allow Vectren South to be responsive to the needs of both existing customers and prospective customers while promoting collaboration among the Settling Parties with respect to the sale of RECs.

Q. What is the basis for your statement that the Settlement Agreement provides
Vectren South with the ability to sell energy and/or RECs generated by the Solar
Project at an attractive rate?

As indicated in my direct testimony, Vectren South had interest from customers in entering into contracts to purchase energy produced by the Solar Project at rates in the 7 to 8 cents per kWh range. In fact, the Letter of Intent with AstraZeneca to enter into a Purchase Power Agreement ("PPA") for renewable energy provides that the PPA would be a long-term contract with a levelized cost of energy expected to be in the range of \$0.075/kWh to \$0.08/kWh. The Levelized Rate agreed upon in the Settlement Agreement is approximately 30% less than the range quoted in the AstraZeneca Letter of Intent. I believe the lower rate will increase customer interest in pursuing agreements to purchase energy from the Solar Project.

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### IV. BENEFITS OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS

10 Q. What do you believe to be the principle benefit of the Settlement Agreement to residential customers?

As indicated in my direct and rebuttal testimony, Vectren South's residential customers have indicated that they want the Company to add renewable resources to its portfolio. Obviously, Vectren South understands that these customers want such resources to be added at a price that is economical. Moreover, customers expect renewable resources to be a part of Vectren South's generation portfolio. The Settlement Agreement is responsive to customer preference by providing for the addition of a significant renewable resource to Vectren South's portfolio at a Levelized Rate of \$0.05452 per kWh. This rate is not subject to annual escalation.

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### Q. In your opinion, are the terms of the Settlement Agreement beneficial to Vectren South's customers?

Yes. As indicated in my direct and rebuttal testimony, customers large and small support the addition of renewable resources to Vectren South's generation portfolio. The Solar Project provides Vectren South's large customers with the green power they need to reach their renewable energy goals without forcing them to take on the long term operation and maintenance expense of building their own on-site renewable energy generation or seeking some other off-system arrangement. The Solar Project provides Vectren South's residential customers with the green power they want in their utility's portfolio without paying any upfront fees. In sum, Commission approval of the Settlement Agreement will represent a significant step towards providing Vectren South with the means to meet the renewable needs of its customers.

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### 2 V. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

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- 4 Q. Does this conclude your settlement testimony?
- 5 A. Yes, at the present time.