

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **FirstEnergy Ohio Utilities' Electric Security Plan ESP-IV Auction:**

*Information Session for Prospective Bidders on Thursday, August 17, 2017*

BOSTON — July 31, 2017 — [CRA International, Inc.](#) (NASDAQ: CRAI), a worldwide leader in providing [economic, financial, and management consulting services](#), today announced that an auction process will be conducted for FirstEnergy Corp.'s (NYSE: FE) Ohio utilities to procure full requirements service for their Standard Service Offer customers. The auction process will lead up to the auction scheduled for October 10, 2017.

The bidding process will use a descending-price clock auction format. The auction will be managed by Auction Manager CRA International, Inc. The auction is being conducted pursuant to FirstEnergy's Ohio Electric Security Plan (ESP-IV) as approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. This is the fifth auction in the series of ESP-IV auctions.

The Information Session for prospective bidders for the October auction is scheduled for Thursday, August 17, 2017. Instructions on how to join the Webcast session are available on the Auction Information Website at [www.firstenergycbp.com](http://www.firstenergycbp.com). Part 1 Applications from prospective bidders will be accepted starting August 23 and are due no later than September 8. For successful Part 1 applicants, the submission window for the Part 2 Application process will be September 14 through September 27.

The products in the October 10 auction are a 24-month contract (delivery period June 2018 through May 2020) and a 36-month contract (delivery period June 2018 through May 2021).

Additional information about the auction process can be found at the Information Website at [www.firstenergycbp.com](http://www.firstenergycbp.com).

### **About CRA International, Inc. and its Auctions & Competitive Bidding Practice**

CRA is a global consulting firm specializing in economic, financial, and management consulting services. CRA advises clients on economic and financial matters pertaining to litigation and regulatory proceedings, and guides corporations through critical business strategy and performance-related issues. Since 1965, clients have engaged CRA for its unique combination of functional expertise and industry knowledge, and for its objective solutions to complex problems. Headquartered in Boston, CRA has offices throughout the world. Detailed information about Charles River Associates, a registered trade name of CRA International, Inc., is available at [www.crai.com](http://www.crai.com). Follow us on LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook.

CRA's Auctions & Competitive Bidding Practice offers businesses, governments, bidders and other market participants extensive experience in auction and market design, implementation, monitoring and participation. More information about CRA's Auctions & Competitive Bidding Practice is available at [www.auctions.crai.com](http://www.auctions.crai.com).