

## **FIRSTENERGY EXPANDS CUSTOMER PAYMENT OPTIONS TO ACCEPT MASTERCARD PAYMENT CARDS**

Akron, Ohio – FirstEnergy Corp. (NYSE: FE) announced that it has added MasterCard credit and debit cards to its list of online payment options so customers can automatically pay their monthly electric bills.

This convenient offering, available to customers of FirstEnergy’s seven electric utility operating companies – Ohio Edison, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and Toledo Edison in Ohio; Metropolitan Edison, Pennsylvania Electric and Pennsylvania Power in Pennsylvania; and Jersey Central Power and Light in New Jersey – lets customers track payments easily via their monthly credit or debit card statement and provides them the security of knowing they are protected against fraud by MasterCard’s Zero Liability policy. Customers also may earn rewards depending on their specific card program.

“Our online credit and debit card payment options give our customers another convenient way to manage their bills with all the protections and benefits of using a payment card,” said Tom Clark, vice president of Customer Service & Service Area Development for FirstEnergy. “We are pleased to be able to expand this popular program to MasterCard users.”

Customers enrolled in FirstEnergy’s electronic billing and payment program can participate in this service. Enrollment in the electronic billing program can be completed by going to the FirstEnergy Web site at [www.firstenergycorp.com](http://www.firstenergycorp.com).

“The cost of paper handling combined with increased consumer preference for electronic payment methods is making card acceptance an attractive proposition within the utility segment,” said Steve Carnevale, vice president Service Industries, MasterCard Worldwide. “We’ve worked to establish a program that meets the unique needs of this industry and helps utility service providers like FirstEnergy bring added choice and conveniences to their customers while also driving greater efficiencies and reducing costs.”

FirstEnergy is a diversified energy company headquartered in Akron, Ohio. Its subsidiaries and affiliates are involved in the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, as well as energy management and other energy-related services.

**Forward-Looking Statements:** This news release includes forward-looking statements based on information currently available to management. Such statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. These statements typically contain, but are not limited to, the terms “anticipate,” “potential,” “expect,” “believe,” “estimate” and similar words. Actual results may differ materially due to the speed and nature of increased competition and deregulation in the electric utility industry, economic or weather conditions affecting future sales and margins, changes in markets for energy services, changing energy and commodity market prices, replacement power costs being higher than anticipated or inadequately hedged, the continued ability of FirstEnergy’s regulated utilities to collect transition and other charges or to recover increased transmission costs, maintenance costs being higher than anticipated, legislative and regulatory changes (including revised environmental requirements), and the legal and regulatory changes resulting from the implementation of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (including, but not limited to, the repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935), the uncertainty of the timing and amounts of the capital expenditures needed to, among other things, implement the Air Quality Compliance Plan (including that such amounts could be higher than anticipated) or levels of emission reductions related to the Consent Decree resolving the New Source Review litigation, adverse regulatory or legal decisions and outcomes (including, but not limited to, the revocation of necessary licenses or operating permits and oversight) by the NRC (including, but not limited to, the Demand For Information issued to FENOC on May 14, 2007) and the various state public utility commissions as disclosed in our SEC filings, the timing and outcome of various proceedings before the PUCO (including, but not limited to, the Distribution Rate Cases and the generation supply plan filing for the Ohio Companies and the successful resolution of the issues remanded to the PUCO by the Ohio Supreme Court regarding the Rate Stabilization Plan) and the PPUC (including the transition rate plan filings for Met-Ed and Penelec and the Pennsylvania Power Company Default Service Plan filing), the continuing availability and operation of generating units, the ability of generating units to continue to operate at, or near full capacity, the inability to accomplish or realize anticipated benefits from strategic goals (including employee workforce initiatives), the anticipated benefits from voluntary pension plan contributions, the ability to improve electric commodity margins and to experience growth in the distribution business, the ability to access the public securities and other capital markets and the cost of such capital, the outcome, cost and other effects of present and potential legal and administrative proceedings and claims related to the August 14, 2003 regional power outage, any final adjustment in the purchase price per share under the accelerated share repurchase program announced March 2, 2007, the risks and other factors discussed from time to time in our SEC filings, and other similar factors. We expressly disclaim any current intention to update any forward-looking statements contained herein as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

**News Media Contact:**

Ellen Raines  
(330) 384-5808

(072407)