

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before the Special Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
on Disqualification

In the Matter of)	
)	
THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY and)	
THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING)	Docket No. 50-346A
COMPANY)	
(Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station,)	
Unit 1))	
)	
THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING)	
COMPANY, ET AL.)	Docket Nos. 50-440A
(Perry Nuclear Power Plant,)	50-441A
Units 1 and 2))	
)	
THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY, ET AL.)	
(Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station,)	Docket Nos. 50-500A
Units 2 and 3))	50-501A

APPLICANTS' MOTION TO QUASH THE CITY OF
CLEVELAND'S SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM
TO DANIEL J. O'LAUGHLIN, ESQ.

1. On June 23, 1976, the City of Cleveland ("City") transmitted for signature to the Chairman of this Special Board a Subpoena Duces Tecum directed to Daniel J. O'Laughlin, Esquire, a partner in the law firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey. At a prehearing conference on June 28, 1976, the Special Board extended the time for filing responses until July 6, 1976, since not all parties had yet received the City's filing. It is the position of the Applicants, and more particularly of The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company ("CEI"), that the Subpoena Duces Tecum should be quashed pursuant to Section 2.720(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice.

There are several good reasons for arriving at this conclusion.

2. We would note first that the City conveniently neglected to accompany its Subpoena Duces Tecum with an Application for Subpoena setting forth the basis for requesting issuance. This failure to comply with Section 2.720(a) of the Commission's Rules of Practice should not in this instance be tossed aside as nothing more than formalistic bickering. It is important to observe that at the time the City is trying once again to launch discovery into matters which it claims will shed light on its disqualification motion, the evidentiary hearing in the antitrust proceeding has come to an end, and the record has, but for one or two unrelated open items, been closed. The participation of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey in this hearing on behalf of CEI is now a matter of record.

3. It seems to Applicants that before the Special Board starts down a path of discovery in connection with the present collateral issue, and all the parties are asked to spend the time, money and effort that will inevitably be involved in a full-blown evidentiary hearing, the City should be required to file an Application for Subpoena advising the Board what it intends to accomplish by this exercise. In view of the fact that the City intentionally

"held off" filing its Disqualification Motion until the very commencement of the evidentiary hearing, it is in no real position to claim prejudice as a result of the participation of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey therein (Antitrust Tr. 1421-2). But, passing that for a moment, this Board is entitled to know what matters of record, if any, the City feels have caused it prejudice by virtue of the law firm's participation. Furthermore, how does the City anticipate that this particularized prejudice (if any) can be cured?

4. These are fundamental questions which should be addressed in an Application for Subpoena. If the City is unable to point to any specific prejudice on the record of the evidentiary hearing -- and furthermore can suggest no plausible remedy even assuming prejudice -- then we are all doing nothing more than playing out a charade. It is decidedly not in the public interest to proceed in such circumstances.

5. The City has sought separately in its other litigation with CEI to remove the law firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey from the proceeding. The City has also apparently divorced itself from the firm for all other purposes. Why, then, with the present NRC hearing at an end, is there reason to continue pressing for the disqualification of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey here? Even assuming

that the ultimate conclusion of this Special Board were to be in favor of disqualification, no purpose will be served by undertaking further evidentiary hearings to arrive at that determination unless such a ruling would impact on the record in this case. We are convinced it will not. Applicants therefore submit that the first order of business is for the City to file with this Board an Application for Subpoena in which it sets forth its answers to the above questions. In the absence of such a filing, an insufficient showing has been made in the papers filed, coupled with the City's statements at the prehearing conference, to support the signing of the City's Subpoena Duces Tecum.

6. There is in addition a separate ground for questioning the Subpoena Duces Tecum, at least insofar as it requests documents "pertaining to the issuance of notes and bonds or other debt instruments for the City of Cleveland * * *" (Subpoena, para. 1). As noted at the prehearing conference of June 28, 1976, material of this sort bears no relationship to the matters in controversy in the NRC antitrust proceeding and therefore should not be the subject of a production order by this Board (Prehearing Conf. Tr. 37, 40, 57).

7. In this connection, it is especially noteworthy that during the course of its direct case, the City

itself tried to introduce affirmatively into the antitrust proceeding an issue relating to the alleged interference by CEI (both alone and allegedly through Squire, Sanders & Dempsey) with the City's bond ordinances, notes and other debt instruments. Applicants moved to strike the testimony as being outside of the scope of the City's own allegations concerning CEI's anticompetitive behavior; the Chairman of the Antitrust Board agreed that this issue was outside the City's case and therefore ordered that the testimony of City witnesses relevant thereto be stricken (Antitrust Tr. 7499).

8. The Antitrust Board has thus removed entirely from this proceeding the City's bond ordinance issue.* Accordingly, discovery in this area cannot be for any legitimate purpose relevant to the matter of disqualification. If the law firm of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey is to be disqualified, the City must demonstrate a substantial relationship between the matters in dispute in the antitrust hearing and the matters for which it previously had employed the

* It is important to keep in mind that the Antitrust Board limited the permissible time period for antitrust scrutiny in this proceeding to the period from September 1, 1965 to the present. The only City bond ordinance activity involving Squire, Sanders & Dempsey within that time frame occurred in 1972, and it is specifically as to the 1972 bond ordinance that the Chairman of the Antitrust Board directed his ruling striking testimony. All other matters that might conceivably relate to the document request in paragraph 1 of the Subpoena Duces Tecum occurred prior to September 1, 1965 and are therefore well outside the scope of this hearing on that additional ground as well.

law firm. As stated by Judge Weinfeld in T. C. Theatre Corp. v Warner Bros. Pictures, 113 F.Supp. 265, 268 (S.D.N.Y. 1953), the showing by the former client must be:

* * * that the matters embraced within the pending suit wherein his former attorney appears on behalf of his adversary are substantially related to the matters or cause of action wherein the attorney previously represented him, the former client. [Emphasis added.]

9. Where, as here, one of those matters for which the firm had previously been used by a former client (i.e., the City) has been explicitly removed from subsequent litigation involving the same law firm on behalf of an adversary, there is no further need for discovery into that stricken matter. Such is the situation here with respect to the City's bond ordinances, notes and other debt instruments, and thus the Subpoena Duces Tecum should be denied in this respect in any event.

10. Finally, Applicants, and more particularly CEI, would urge that this Board quash the City's Subpoena Duces Tecum to the extent that compliance therewith by Daniel J. O'Laughlin, Esquire, would require the invasion of CEI's attorney-client privilege. The City's document requests are extremely broad -- and, by the City's own ad-

mission, intentionally so (Prehearing Conf. Tr. 29-31, 44, 46). For example, the City does not restrict itself simply to the law firm's files which relate to work done for the City; rather, it seeks documents from "all files" of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey insofar as they make reference to specified subject matters (Subpoena, para. 2). Similarly broadbased are the Subpoena requests set forth in paragraphs 4, 6 and 7 of the City's filing.

11. It must be self-evident that so sweeping a demand for a law firm's documents is necessarily going to embrace a large quantity of material entitled to protection from disclosure as privileged information of other clients. CEI does not doubt for a minute that Squire, Sanders & Dempsey has in its possession a number of files relating to legal services which the firm has rendered for CEI. To the extent that any of those files, or material contained therein, is called for under the City's Subpoena Duces Tecum, CEI would ask that this Special Board sustain the present Motion to Quash or, in the alternative, issue a protective order on behalf of CEI sufficient to preserve its claim of attorney-client privilege as to all such privileged materials in the files of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey.

WHEREFORE, Applicants request that their instant motion be granted in the manner and to the extent set out above.

Respectfully submitted,

SHAW, PITTMAN, POTTS & TROWBRIDGE

By: 

Wm. Bradford Reynolds

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Counsel for Applicants

Dated: July 6, 1976.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing "Applicants' Motion To Quash The City Of Cleveland's Subpoena Duces Tecum To Daniel J. O'Laughlin, Esq." were served upon each of the persons listed on the attached Service List, by hand delivering copies to those persons in the Washington, D. C. area and by mailing copies, postage prepaid, to all others, all on this 6th day of July, 1976.

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