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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION AT DAYTON

NAWAZ AHMED,

:

Petitioner, Case No. 2:07-cv-658

: District Judge Michael H. Watson

-vs- Magistrate Judge Michael R. Merz

MARC C. HOUK, Warden,

:

Respondent.

STATUS CONFIRMATION ON REFERRAL

This case is before the Court upon transfer of the referral to United States Magistrate Judge Michael R. Merz (Doc. No. 55). Upon inspection of the docket, it appears to the undersigned that Respondent's Motion to Dismiss Procedurally Defaulted Claims (Doc. No. 39) is ripe for decision and that the remaining dates in the First Scheduling Order (Doc. No. 8) depend upon a decision on that Motion. The Court has this date granted Petitioner's Motion to Expand the Record (Doc. No. 45) which was not opposed.

Counsel are invited to advise the Court forthwith if their understanding of the status of the case is different from the Magistrate Judge's.

June 4, 2010.

s/ **Michael R. Merz**United States Magistrate Judge