BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Ohio)	
Power Company for Authority to)	
Establish a Standard Service Offer)	Case No. 16-1852-EL-SSO
Pursuant to R.C. 4928.143, in the Form of)	
an Electric Security Plan)	
In the Matter of the Application of Ohio)	
Power Company for Approval of Certain)	Case No. 16-1853-EL-AAM
Accounting Authority.)	

MOTION TO INTERVENE BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 4903.221 and Ohio Administrative Code 4901-1-11, the Environmental Law & Policy Center ("ELPC") respectfully moves to intervene in the above-captioned proceedings. As explained more thoroughly in the attached Memorandum in Support, ELPC has a real and substantial interest in these proceedings, in which Ohio Power Company is to file an application to amend its current Electric Security Plan in accordance with a stipulation approved in Case Nos. 14-1693-EL-RDR *et al.* Additionally, the interests of ELPC are not adequately represented by any other party to this matter, and its participation in this proceeding will contribute to a just and expeditious resolution of the issues and questions. Further, ELPC's participation will not unduly delay the proceeding or prejudice any other party.

ELPC respectfully requests this Commission grant its motion to intervene for these reasons and those set forth in more detail in the attached Memorandum in Support.

October 21, 2016 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Madeline Fleisher
Madeline Fleisher
Environmental Law & Policy Center

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Counsel for the Environmental Law & Policy Center

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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION TO INTERVENE BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER

Ohio Revised Code ("R.C.") 4903.221 states that "[a]ny other person who may be adversely affected by a public utilities commission proceeding may intervene in such proceeding" provided the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO" or "Commission") makes certain determinations. The Environmental Law & Policy Center ("ELPC") is a non-profit environmental advocacy organization whose mission is to improve the Midwest's environmental quality and economic development. ELPC is an advocate for both environmental health and sustainable economic development. As a regional organization with a presence and members in Ohio, ELPC and its members may be adversely affected by the outcome of this proceeding, and its interests are not adequately represented by the other parties hereto.

O R.C. 4903.221 requires the Commission to consider four factors when presented with a motion to intervene. In addition, the Commission's procedural rules at Ohio Administrative Code ("Ohio Adm. Code") 4901-11-1 similarly provide that it shall consider five factors when weighing a motion to intervene. ELPC's motion meets all of the factors required by statute and rule.

Pursuant to R.C. 4903.221, the Commission must consider:

- (1) The nature and extent of the prospective intervenor's interest;
- (2) The legal position advanced by the prospective intervenor and its probable relation to the merits of the case;
- (3) Whether the intervention by the prospective intervenor will unduly prolong or delay the proceedings; [and]
- (4) Whether the prospective intervenor will significantly contribute to full development and equitable resolution of the factual issues.

R.C. 4903.221(B). As to the first factor, ELPC has a substantial interest in the pending application by Ohio Power Company ("AEP" or "Company") to amend its current Electric Security Plan ("ESP"), previously approved by the Commission in Case Nos. 13-2385-EL-SSO *et al.* ("ESP 3 Case"). On May 13, 2016, AEP filed an application to amend that ESP in the *ESP 3 Case* docket ("ESP Amendment Application"), in connection with a stipulation that the Commission approved in Case Nos. 14-1693-EL-RDR *et al.* That Application affects ELPC's interests because it includes a proposal to significantly increase AEP's fixed customer charge for residential distribution customers – more than doubling the charge within the next two years. *ESP 3 Case*, Moore Test. (May 13, 2016) at 10-11. That proposed rate design could alter customer's incentives to implement energy efficiency measures or install distributed generation resources. On September 7, 2016, the Attorney Examiner ordered AEP to refile the ESP Amendment Application and supporting testimony in this separate docket, and ELPC expects the refiled Application will contain the same or a similar distribution rate proposal.

As to the second factor, because of the potential impacts on ELPC and its Ohio members, ELPC wants to ensure AEP's Application meets the applicable legal requirements, and if not, recommend appropriate solutions. Additionally, ELPC seeks the Commission's careful scrutiny of the reasonableness of AEP's Application, which implicates ELPC's interests in advocating for electric rates that are compatible with effective use of clean energy resources.

Under the third factor, ELPC's inclusion will not unduly delay or prolong the proceeding. The Commission has not yet set a procedural schedule for the case, and ELPC is committed to working within any schedule that is imposed by this Commission to achieve the efficient and orderly disposition of the questions presented. Finally, ELPC will significantly contribute to the full development and resolution of the proceeding by bringing its unique perspective to bear. ELPC has expertise and experience regarding clean energy subjects that will contribute to resolving the pending issues.

Similarly, ELPC meets the requirements set forth in Ohio Admin. Code 4901-11-1(B):

- (1) The nature and extent of the prospective intervenor's interest;
- (2) The legal position advanced by the prospective intervenor and its probable relation to the merits of the case;
- (3) Whether the intervention by the prospective intervenor will unduly prolong or delay the proceedings;
- (4) Whether the prospective intervenor will significantly contribute to full development and equitable resolution of the factual issues; [and]
- (5) The extent to which the person's interest is represented by existing parties.

Ohio Admin. Code §4901-11-1(B). The first four factors mirror those in R.C. 4903.221, and for the same reasons as stated above, ELPC meets those factors. As to the fifth, ELPC maintains that no other party can adequately represent its interests as a regional environmental advocacy organization that also focuses on "green" economic development, including new manufacturing and job creation.

Finally, this Commission's policy is to "encourage the broadest possible participation in its proceedings." *Cleveland Elec. Illum. Co.*, Case No. 85-675-EL-AIR, Entry at 2 (January 14, 1986). ELPC's inclusion in this proceeding will contribute to this goal of broad participation in PUCO proceedings.

Because ELPC meets the criteria set forth in both R.C. 4903.221 and Ohio Admin. Code 4901-11-1, it respectfully asks this Commission to grant its motion to intervene in the above-captioned proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

/s Madeline Fleisher
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Motion to Intervene submitted on behalf of the Environmental Law & Policy Center was served by electronic mail, upon the following Parties of Record on October 21, 2016.

<u>/s Madeline Fleisher</u>
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Summary: Motion to Intervene and Memorandum in Support by the Environmental Law & Policy Center electronically filed by Madeline Fleisher on behalf of Environmental Law and Policy Center