

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Duke :
Energy Ohio, Inc., For an Increase in its : Case No. 17-32-EL-AIR
Electric Distribution Rates. :

In the Matter of the Application of Duke :
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Tariff Approval. : Case No. 17-33-EL-ATA
:

In the Matter of the Application of Duke :
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Approval to : Case No. 17-34-EL-AAM
Change Accounting Methods. :

**UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR SUSPENSION OF THE PROCEDURAL
SCHEDULE AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION OF OHIO**

The Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (“Staff”), pursuant to Rules 4901-1-12 and 4901-1-13 of the Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.), respectfully requests a suspension of the procedural schedule reflected in the January 31, 2018 Attorney Examiner Entry. Staff also requests that the Commission grant its motion on an expedited basis pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-12(C) and certifies that no party objects to the issuance of an immediate ruling or to the requested extension. The reasons for this motion are set forth more fully in the attached memorandum.

Respectfully submitted,

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Section Chief

/s/ Steven L. Beeler

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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

On March 2, 2017, Duke submitted an application for an increase in electric distribution rates, for approval of tariff modifications, and for approval to changes in certain accounting methods in the above-captioned proceeding. By entry dated January 31, 2018, the Commission adopted a procedural schedule setting a date for the filing of testimony and an evidentiary hearing as follows:

1. All pre-filed testimony is to be filed by February 26, 2018.
2. The evidentiary hearing is to begin on March 12, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

For the reasons set forth below, Staff requests a suspension of the current procedural schedule.

All of the parties have met numerous times to discuss settlement. Staff respectfully requests a suspension of the current procedural in order to facilitate continuing settlement discussions and further explore whether a partial or complete settlement may be reached. Following suspension of the procedural schedule, the Parties propose and commit to either file a settlement in the docket next or file a notice indicating that the settlement efforts have been otherwise concluded. If a partial or complete Stipulation and Recommendation (“Stipulation”) is filed by two or more Parties, then Staff requests that the Attorney Examiner set a procedural schedule at that

time in order to accommodate the preparation of testimony in support of the Stipulation, possible preparation of testimony in opposition to the Stipulation, and the parties' preparation for hearing.

O.A.C. 4901-1-12(C) allows a party to request that the Commission consider a motion on an expedited basis. No party opposes the motion for suspension of the procedural schedule and request for immediate ruling. Accordingly, Staff respectfully requests an expedited ruling for the suspension of the procedural schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the Motion for Suspension of the Procedural Schedule has been served upon the below-named counsel via electronic mail, this 14th day of February, 2018.

/s/ Steven L. Beeler

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Summary: Motion Unopposed Motion for Suspension of the Procedural Schedule and Request for Expedited Treatment electronically filed by Mrs. Tonnetta Y Scott on behalf of PUCO