

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy)	
Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in)	Case No. 18-0298-GA-AIR
Gas Rates.)	

In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy)	
Delivery of Ohio, Inc., for Approval of an Alternative)	Case No. 18-0299-GA-ALT
Rate Plan.)	

**MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE TESTIMONY
AND
REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING
BY
THE OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL**

The proceeding involves Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio's ("Vectren") request to increase the rates that its customers pay for gas service by 9.36%.¹ The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel ("OCC"), on behalf of the residential utility consumers of Vectren, moves the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") for a 14-day extension of time for the filing of intervenor testimony, as permitted under Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-12 and 4901-1-13(A). A 14-day extension would extend the intervenor testimony filing deadline to Wednesday, November 14, 2018. Further, OCC seeks an expedited ruling under Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-12(C). As of this filing, Vectren has objected to OCC's request for an expedited ruling.

The reasons supporting this request, are set forth in the attached Memorandum in Support.

¹ *In re Application of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in Gas Rates*, Case Nos. 18-298-GA-AIR et al., Pre-Filing Notice (Feb. 21, 2018) at Exhibit 4.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Weston (0016973)
Ohio Consumers' Counsel

/s/ William J. Michael

William J. Michael (0070921)

Counsel of Record

Bryce McKenney (0088203)

Amy Botschner-O'Brien (0074423)

Assistant Consumers' Counsel

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

65 East State Street, 7th Floor

Columbus, Ohio 43215-4213

Telephone: [Michael] 614-466-1291

Telephone: [McKenney] 614-466-9585

Telephone: [Botschner-O'Brien] (614) 466-9575

William.michael@occ.ohio.gov

bryce.mckenney@occ.ohio.gov

amy.botschner.obrien@occ.ohio.gov

(will accept service via email)

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy)
Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in)
Gas Rates.)
Case No. 18-0298-GA-AIR

In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy)
Delivery of Ohio, Inc., for Approval of an Alternative)
Rate Plan.)
Case No. 18-0299-GA-ALT

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME
TO FILE TESTIMONY
AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING
BY
THE OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL**

I. INTRODUCTION

This case affects the rates paid by approximately 320,247 customers of Vectren for natural gas service. Vectren filed an Application seeking to increase its rates on March 30, 2018. OCC, the state of Ohio's advocate for residential utility consumers, moved to intervene in this case on March 5, 2018.

On October 1, 2018, the PUCO Staff's Report of Investigation ("Staff Report") was filed. Accordingly, the current deadline for the filing of objections to the Staff Report, as provided in R.C. 4909.19, is October 31, 2018. Similarly, the deadline for filing direct expert testimony is currently October 31, 2018, in accordance with the PUCO's procedural rules.² OCC moves the PUCO for a 14-day extension of time for the filing of intervenor testimony, consistent with Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-12 and 4901-1-13(A)

² See May 21, 2014 Entry at page 2, Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-29(A)(1)(b).

II. APPLICABLE PROCEDURAL RULES

Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-13(A) permits parties to move for extensions of time to file testimony. That rule provides for the granting of such motions for “good cause shown.”

Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-12(C) allows parties to request an expedited ruling on their motions. If the motion certifies that no party objects to the issuance of such a ruling, then an immediate ruling may be issued without awaiting the filing of a memorandum contra.³

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

OCC seeks a 14-day extension of time to file its expert testimony under Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-13(A). This extension of time would change the deadline for filing expert testimony from October 31, 2018 to November 14, 2018. OCC proposes that the extension apply to all intervenors. The good cause for the extension includes that OCC was not provided Staff’s schedules and workpapers until 10 days into the 30-day period for filing objections and filing testimony. Additional time to analyze these documents and formulate testimony is therefore necessary and fair. Additional time to prepare testimony is also necessary due to the current press of regulatory work in which OCC is involved on behalf of Ohio residential consumers.

Granting this brief extension would allow intervenors more time to develop and file testimony responsive to the Application filed in this proceeding and the Staff Report. The extension will not cause undue delay and should not work to prejudice any party. For these reasons, the PUCO should grant OCC’s Motion for an Extension of Time to File Testimony.

³ See Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-12(C).

Although Vectren (as of the time of this filing) has objected to OCC's request for expedited treatment, it is nonetheless appropriate. Objections and testimony are currently due in less than two weeks. Parties and stakeholders, and the PUCO, would benefit from more immediate notice regarding whether that due date will be changed.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, the PUCO should grant OCC's Motion on an expedited basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Weston (0016973)
Ohio Consumers' Counsel

/s/ William J. Michael
William J. Michael (0070921)
Counsel of Record
Bryce McKenney (0088203)
Amy Botschner-O'Brien (0074423)
Assistant Consumers' Counsel

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel
65 East State Street, 7th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4213
Telephone: [Michael] 614-466-1291
Telephone: [McKenney] 614-466-9585
Telephone: [Botschner-O'Brien] (614) 466-9575
William.michael@occ.ohio.gov
bryce.mckenney@occ.ohio.gov
amy.botschner.obrien@occ.ohio.gov
(will accept service via email)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

It is hereby certified that a true copy of the foregoing Motion was served by electronic transmission upon the parties below this 19th day of October 2018.

/s/ William J. Michael

Williams J. Michael

Assistant Consumers' Counsel

SERVICE LIST

werner.margard@ohioattorneygeneral.gov
mjsettineri@vorys.com
glpetrucci@vorys.com
joliker@igsenergy.com
mnugent@igsenergy.com
slesser@calfee.com
mkeaney@calfee.com
talexander@calfee.com
tony_long@hna.honda.com
mfleisher@elpc.org
cmooney@ohiopartners.org

campbell@whitt-sturtevant.com
whitt@whitt-sturtevant.com
rust@whitt-sturtevant.com
fdarr@mcneeslaw.com
mpritchard@mcneeslaw.com

jstephenson@vectren.com
Thomas.jernigan.3@us.af.mil
Andrew.unsicker@us.af.mil

Attorney Examiner:

Gregory.price@puc.state.oh.us

patricia.schabo@puc.state.oh.us

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

10/19/2018 3:59:55 PM

in

Case No(s). 18-0298-GA-AIR, 18-0299-GA-ALT

Summary: Motion Motion for an Extension of Time to File Testimony and Request for Expedited Ruling by The Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel electronically filed by Ms. Jamie Williams on behalf of Michael, William Mr.