

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

|                                     |   |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| In the Matter of the Review of the  | ) |                         |
| Demand–Side Management Program and  | ) | Case No. 19-1456-GA-RDR |
| Rider Mechanism of Pike Natural Gas | ) |                         |
| Company                             | ) |                         |

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**INITIAL COMMENTS OF PIKE NATURAL GAS COMPANY**

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Pike Natural Gas Company submits the following initial comments for the Commission’s consideration regarding the use of accrued funds under its demand side management program. The Staff has recommended the DSM program be terminated and that Pike provide customers a refund of the remaining balance in the rider. The Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy (“OPAE”) has agreed to the discontinuation in its July 23, 2019 response filed in this proceeding.

Pike agrees with the termination of the program as the number of weatherization projects completed in Pike’s service territory have not been sufficient to support the program. If the Commission orders the program terminated, Pike will provide customers of record as of the refund date and who are subject to the rider a refund of the remaining balance in the rider.

Respectfully submitted,

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's electronic filing system will electronically serve a copy of this filing on all parties on the service list of the docket card who have electronically subscribed to the case. In addition, the undersigned hereby certifies that a true and accurate courtesy copy of the foregoing document is also being served (via electronic mail) on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019.

/s/ Michael J. Settineri  
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Summary: Comments of Pike Natural Gas Company electronically filed by Mr. Michael J. Settineri on behalf of Pike Natural Gas Company