

# THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE ANNUAL  
REPORTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019 FOR  
THE FISCAL ASSESSMENT OF ALL  
REGULATED ENTITIES.

CASE NO. 20-01-AU-RPT

## ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on April 22, 2020

### I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission extends the date whereby all regulated entities must file a 2019 annual report for fiscal assessment through the Commission's web-based filing system known as the PUCO Community until June 29, 2020. Accordingly, the Commission also postpones the issuance of the initial assessment invoice to July 15, 2020, and sets the due date for that invoice as August 20, 2020. Those entities that fail to abide by these revised deadlines may be subject to a forfeiture. R.C. 4905.54.

### II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Pursuant to R.C. 4905.10, by Entry issued January 29, 2020, the Commission directed all regulated entities to file a 2019 annual report for fiscal assessment through the Commission's web-based filing system known as the PUCO Community by April 30, 2020. Those entities that fail to file a timely 2019 annual report may be subject to a forfeiture. R.C. 4905.54.

{¶ 3} On March 9, 2020, the governor signed Executive Order 2020-01D (Executive Order), declaring a state of emergency in Ohio to protect the well-being of Ohioans from the dangerous effects of COVID-19. As described in the Executive Order, state agencies are required to implement procedures consistent with recommendations from the Department of Health to prevent or alleviate the public health threat associated with COVID-19. Additionally, all citizens are urged to heed the advice of the Department of Health regarding this public health emergency in order to protect their health and safety.

{¶ 4} Further, on March 22, 2020, as amended on April 2, 2020, Dr. Amy Acton,

Director of the Ohio Department of Health, issued an order (Stay at Home Order) intended to ensure that the maximum number of Ohioans self-isolate in their residences to the maximum extent feasible, while enabling essential services to continue and help slow the spread of COVID-19. Specifically, the Stay at Home Order, among other things, directs all individuals in the State of Ohio to stay at home unless engaged in essential work or activity and directs all non-essential businesses and operations to cease all activities. The Stay at Home Order remains in full force and effect until May 1, 2020, unless Dr. Acton modifies or rescinds the order at an earlier time and date.

{¶ 5} In light of the governor's declaration of a state of emergency and the Stay at Home Order, the Commission finds it necessary to extend the April 30, 2020 deadline. Consequently, the Commission will extend the due date for the submission of the 2019 annual report for all regulated entities until June 29, 2020. A list of all regulated entities who must file a 2019 annual report has been filed by Staff on the docket for this proceeding on January 30, 2020.<sup>1</sup>

{¶ 6} Each regulated entity must file a separate report for each certificate held. Companies with two or more certificates should submit an annual report for each certificate or authority held during 2019, even if the company did not have intrastate gross earnings during the 2019 calendar year. No annual report is required for certificates issued in 2020.

{¶ 7} Additionally, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission also finds it necessary to postpone issuance of the initial assessment invoice, pursuant to division (C) of R.C. 4905.10, from May 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020. Correspondingly, the initial assessment invoice payment due date is moved from June 20, 2020 to August 20, 2020.

{¶ 8} All companies are hereby put on notice that the Commission will expect timely compliance from all companies. All companies should take notice that a civil forfeiture of up to \$10,000, may be assessed, pursuant to R.C. 4905.54, against any company that fails to

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<sup>1</sup> For further information about annual reports in general, visit:  
<https://www.puco.ohio.gov/docketing/annual-reports-for-fiscal-assessment/>.

comply by the June 29, 2020 annual report filing deadline and the August 20, 2020 initial assessment invoice payment due date, absent good cause shown. Such forfeiture would be in addition to any amounts owed to this Commission.

### III. ORDER

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That each regulated entity subject to fiscal assessment for the 2019 calendar year submit a 2019 annual report using the Commission's online filing system by June 29, 2020. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That each regulated entity who receives an initial assessment invoice remit payment for the invoice by August 20, 2020. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That notice of this Entry be served via the Electric-Energy, Gas-Pipeline, Railroad, Telephone, and Water industry listservs, and directly upon each company contact which was filed on the docket on January 30, 2020.

#### COMMISSIONERS:

##### *Approving:*

Sam Randazzo, Chairman  
M. Beth Trombold  
Lawrence K. Friedeman  
Daniel R. Conway  
Dennis P. Deters

AS/kck

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**Case No(s). 20-0001-AU-RPT**

Summary: Entry extending the date whereby all regulated entities must file a 2019 annual report for fiscal assessment through the Commission's web-based filing system known as the PUCO Community until June 29, 2020; and postpones the issuance of the initial assessment invoice to July 15, 2020, and sets the due date for that invoice as August 20, 2020.  
electronically filed by Ms. Mary E Fischer on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio