

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPER
PROCEDURES AND PROCESS FOR THE
COMMISSION'S OPERATIONS AND
PROCEEDINGS DURING THE DECLARED
STATE OF EMERGENCY AND RELATED
MATTERS.

CASE NO. 20-591-AU-UNC

IN THE MATTER OF E-FILED
CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS DURING
THE DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY.

CASE NO. 20-2000-XX-XXX

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on May 5, 2020

{¶ 1} 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. The Executive Order was effective immediately and will remain in effect until the COVID-19 emergency no longer exists. The Department of Health is making COVID-19 information, including information on preventative measures, available via the internet at coronavirus.ohio.gov/.

{¶ 2} Pursuant to R.C. 3701.13, the Ohio Department of Health has supervision of “all matters relating to the preservation of the life and health of the people” and the “ultimate authority in matters of quarantine and isolation.” On March 12, 2020, the Director of the Ohio Department of Health issued an Order indicating that “all persons are urged to maintain social distancing (approximately six feet away from other people) whenever possible.”

{¶ 3} On March 12, 2020, the Commission opened Case No. 20-591-AU-UNC and issued the first of several entries in response to the current state of emergency.

{¶ 4} By Entry dated April 8, 2020, the Commission directed that certain provisions of Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-02 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-24 be waived in order to permit the electronic filing of documents for which protective or confidential treatment is requested. In the Entry, the Commission set forth procedures and processes for the electronic filing of confidential documents, in Case No. 20-2000-XX-XXX, for the duration of the emergency or until otherwise ordered by the Commission. The Commission also noted that it will continue to accept the filing of confidential documents by mail, although in-person filing of documents with the Commission's docketing division remains suspended during the declared emergency.

{¶ 5} At this time, the attorney examiner finds that, due to technical issues, all electronic filing of confidential documents, as described in the April 8, 2020 Entry, should be suspended until otherwise ordered by the Commission. Any document for which a filer seeks confidential treatment must be mailed to the Commission at the following address: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

{¶ 6} It is, therefore,

{¶ 7} ORDERED, That, until otherwise ordered by the Commission, all electronic filing of documents containing confidential information be suspended. It is, further,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That documents containing confidential, proprietary, or trade secret information be filed with the Commission by mail. It is, further,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That notice of this Entry be served via the Electric-Energy, Gas-Pipeline, Railroad, Telephone, Transportation, and Water industry service lists.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Sarah J. Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot
Attorney Examiner

NJW/mef

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in

Case No(s). 20-0591-AU-UNC, 20-2000-XX-XXX

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry suspending electronic filing of confidential documents and ordering the same be filed by mail. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E Fischer on behalf of Sarah J. Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio