

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Columbus Southern Power Company for Approval of an Electric Transition Plan and Application for Receipt of Transition Revenues

In the Matter of the Ohio Power Company for Approval of Electric Transition Plan and Application for Receipt of Transition Revenues Case No. 99-1729-EL-ETP 3: 30

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Case No. 99-1730-EL-ETP

MOTION TO INTERVENE OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

The Ohio Department of Development ("ODOD") hereby moves for leave to intervene in the above-captioned matter pursuant to R.C. 4903.221 and Section 4901-1-11 of the Commission's Code of Rules and Regulations, with full powers and rights granted, by the Commission specifically, by statute or by the provisions of the Commission's Code of Rules and Regulations, to intervening parties. The reasons for granting this motion are contained in the memorandum attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO INTERVENE

The Director of Development and the Ohio Department of Development (hereinafter collectively referred to as "ODOD") should be permitted to intervene in these matters pursuant to Section 4903.221 of the Revised Code and the Commission's Rules of Practice contained in Section 4901-1-11 of the Ohio Administrative Code. In support of the Motion to Intervene, the ODOD notes that it is a state governmental agency which administers Ohio's community and economic development programs.

The Community Development Division of ODOD administers a variety of state and federally funded programs that benefit low- and moderate-income individuals and families. As part of the state's overall development efforts, the ODOD provides weatherization services, and assistance with home heating bills for low-income Ohioans and energy efficiency programs for residential, commercial and industrial consumers. These programs and other activities administered by the ODOD promote the efficient utilization of energy, the promotion of the general welfare, the protection of public health and safety, the protection of environmental quality and the natural linkage of energy, economics and environment.

Pursuant to Senate Bill 3, the ODOD is authoring rules for the administration of the Universal Service Fund ("USF"), which will come from a continuation of utility programs which have supported these services in the past. Senate Bill 3 requires the ODOD to establish an energy efficiency and weatherization program, funded by the USF and targeted to high-cost, high-volume use structures occupied by customers eligible for PIPP assistance, with the goal of reducing the energy bills of those customers, and thereby containing the cost of PIPP to all utility customers.

The USF revenues will be used to provide funding for the low-income customer assistance programs, to fund the consumer education program, and to pay the administrative costs of those programs. One goal of the USF program is to decrease the USF rider through cost savings resulting from the energy efficiency activities, thereby saving money for all classes of ratepayers. In addition Senate Bill 3 authorizes the ODOD to establish an Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund to benefit all types of customers, residential, commercial all industrial and others.

Without active participation in the proceedings to protect its interests, ODOD may be left with an under-funded USF program and thereby be unable to fulfill the mandate of Senate Bill 3. It is imperative that the ODOD participate at the proceedings to ensure adequate funding of the USF.

Because the ODOD will administer the programs funded by the USF and because the level of funding for such programs may be affected by the decisions made in the above-referenced cases, the ODOD has a real and substantial interest in the outcome. For the reasons stated above, the ODOD has a direct, real and substantial interest in the proceedings, and the ODOD would be unable to protect these interests if it was not allowed to intervene as a party to these proceedings.

The ODOD's interests are unique and distinct, and will not be adequately represented by the other parties in the proceeding. Participation by the ODOD in these proceedings will contribute to the just and expeditious resolution of the issues and concerns raised in these proceedings and will not cause undue delay nor unjustly prejudice any existing party. Therefore, the ODOD's Motion to Intervene should be granted.

Respectively submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Motion to Intervene and Memorandum of Support was served by regular U.S. mail upon the following parties in the case on the 3rd day of May, 2000.

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