**BEFORE THE**

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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| In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., to Adjust Rider DR-IM and Rider AU for 2010 SmartGrid Costs and Mid-Deployment Review. |  ) ) ) ) ) | Case No. 10-2326-GE-RDR |

**JOINT MOTION TO EXTEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

**AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING**

 Now comes Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., together with other intervenors in the proceeding, including the Office of the Ohio Consumers’ Counsel, Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy, Direct Energy Services, LLC and Direct Energy Business, LLC and move the Commission for an extension of the procedural schedule for this matter. Reasons for the request are set forth more fully in the accompanying memorandum in support.

Respectfully submitted,



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**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT**

On June 30, 2011, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., (Duke Energy Ohio or Company) submitted an annual Application (Application) to adjust Riders DR-IM and Rider AU to permit recovery of 2010 costs incurred in deployment of SmartGrid. On September 8, 2011, the Commission granted the intervention of the Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy (OPAE) and the Office of the Ohio Consumers’ Counsel (OCC), and set forth a procedural schedule for this proceeding. Thereafter, Direct Energy Services, LLC and Direct Energy Business, LLC also moved to intervene. On November 4, 2011, OPAE, OCC and the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Staff) submitted comments on the Company’s Application (all intervenors and the Staff hereinafter, the Parties). Intervenor testimony is due on November 28, 2011 and a hearing was set for December 13, 2011. In the past few weeks, the Parties have met to discuss the issues raised in the comments and related matters. The Parties believe that progress toward settlement of the issues raised in the Company’s application is possible and would like additional time to work toward such a settlement. As a result, the Parties collectively request that the Commission set a new procedural schedule that allows for additional discussion and possible resolution prior to the filing of any testimony and the commencement of a hearing. It is requested that the current schedule for testimony and hearing be set back by at least one month due to the press of other cases and the holidays.

 WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully requests that the Commission, pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-24(D), grant its Motion to Extend Procedural Schedule and provide a new procedural schedule that allows time for the Parties to continue seeking an amicable resolution of the issues.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of all of the Intervening Parties,

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following parties via electronic mail, regular mail or by hand delivery this 21st day of November, 2011.

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