

FILE

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Duke) Case No. 11-4393-EL-RDR
Energy Ohio, Inc. for an Energy)
Efficiency Cost Recovery Mechanism)
and for Approval of Additional)
Programs for Inclusion in its Existing)
Portfolio)

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MOTION TO INTERVENE
BY THE
OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

Pursuant to O.R.C. 4903.221 and O.A.C. 4901-1-11, the Ohio Environmental Council ("OEC") hereby moves to intervene in the above captioned proceeding. The Application filed by Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. ("Duke") in this proceeding concerns the implementation of the energy efficiency and peak demand reduction ("PDR") requirements of Senate Bill 221 ("S.B. 221") through the creation of an Energy Efficiency and Peak Demand Reduction Rider ("Rider EE/PDR"). As more fully discussed in the accompanying memorandum, the Ohio Environmental Council ("OEC") has a real and substantial interest in this proceeding that are not represented by any existing party, and its participation in this proceeding will contribute to a just and expeditious resolution of the issues involved without unduly delaying the proceeding or unjustly prejudicing any existing party.

Respectfully submitted



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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

R.C. Section 4903.221 provides that any “person who may be adversely affected by a public utilities commission proceeding may intervene in such proceeding.” The OEC is a non-profit, charitable organization comprised of a network of over 100 affiliated member groups whose mission is to secure a healthier environment for all Ohioans. Throughout its over 40-year history, OEC has been a leading advocate for fresh air, clean water, and sustainable land and energy use. OEC was an active participant in the effort that led to the passage of S.B. 221, including the inclusion of energy efficiency and PDR benchmarks. OEC has a real and substantial interest in assuring that these benchmarks are attained. The attainment or non-attainment of these benchmarks will have a direct effect on the air quality within Ohio and the amount of energy efficiency implemented as a result of S.B. 221. There can be no question that OEC has an interest in and may be adversely affected by the disposition of this case.

R.C. 4903.221(B) outlines four factors that the Commission shall consider when ruling on a motion to intervene in a proceeding. First, pursuant to R.C. 4903.221(B)(1), the Commission shall consider “The nature and extent of the prospective intervenor’s interest.” OEC has several distinct interests in the disposition of this case. First, OEC is interested in the proper calculation of energy efficiency and PDR benchmarks. OEC, as an environmental advocacy organization, has a special interest in the outcome of this case because of the direct

impact that decisions on the calculation of these benchmarks will have on the current and future implementation and effectiveness of S.B. 221, and thus, the further deployment of cleaner, more efficient energy production in Ohio. Further, the cost recovery mechanism proposed by Duke, if developed properly could incentivize deployment of energy efficiency and PDR programs that result in over achievement of benchmarks.

Second, pursuant to R.C. 4903.221(B)(2), the Commission shall consider “The legal position advanced by the prospective intervenor and its probable relation to the merits of the case.” Although OEC does not outline detailed legal arguments in this section, OEC maintains that Duke’s Application should be properly scrutinized by interested parties to ensure that it complies with the letter and intent S.B. 221’s energy efficiency and PDR requirements.

Third, pursuant to R.C. 4903.221(B)(3), the Commission shall consider “Whether the intervention by the prospective intervenor will unduly prolong or delay the proceedings.” OEC has significant experience dealing with electric utilities questions before the Commission and will not seek to delay the proceeding. OEC has been consistently involved in the development and enactment of S.B. 221 and the associated rules, including as a party in numerous cases before the Commission. OEC’s intervention will not unduly prolong or delay these proceedings; to the contrary, OEC’s expertise and unique interest will add value to the development of this case.

Fourth, pursuant to R.C. 4903.221(B)(4), the Commission shall consider “Whether the prospective intervenor will significantly contribute to full development and equitable resolution of the factual issues.” OEC has actively participated in the implementation of the efficiency, PDR, and renewable energy benchmarks established by S.B. 221 and added value to numerous other proceedings before the Commission. Finally, as Ohio’s leading environmental advocate, OEC will be able to assure that the environmental impacts of benchmark calculations, efficiency

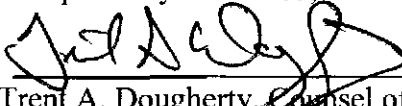
and PDR program development and deployment, and cost recovery for those programs are fully developed.

OEC also satisfies the intervention requirements outlined in the Commission's rules. The criteria for intervention established by O.A.C. 4901-1-11(A) are identical to those provided by R.C. 4903.221, with the exception that the rules add a fifth factor that the Commission shall consider when ruling on a motion to intervene. Pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-11(A)(5), the Commission shall consider "The extent to which the [intervenor's] interest is represented by existing parties." OEC's interest is not fully represented by the existing parties. OEC is the leading state-wide advocate for Ohio's environment. No other party to this proceeding has the mission of securing healthy air for all Ohioans, and no other party has been a continuous participant in cases before the Commission for the specific purpose of furthering this mission.

Finally, we point out that it is the Commission's stated policy "to encourage the broadest possible participation in its proceedings."¹ The Commission should not apply its intervention criteria in a manner that would favor one environmental or consumer advocate to the exclusion of others.

WHEREFORE, OEC meets all the criteria established by R.C. 4903.221 and O.A.C. 4901-1-11(A)(5) and therefore should be granted intervenor status in this proceeding.

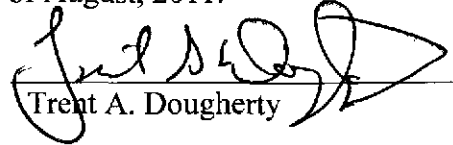
Respectfully submitted,


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¹ *Cleveland Elec. Illum. Co.*, Case No. 85-675-EL-AIR, Entry dated January 14, 1986, at 2.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing has been served upon the following parties by first class or electronic mail this 11th day of August, 2011.


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