

FILE



5577 Airport Highway, Suite 101 • Toledo, Ohio 43615 • Phone: 419.539.9180 • Fax: 419.539.9185

January 14, 2016

Chuck Stockhausen
PUCO
Docketing Division, 13th Floor
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Re: Putnam County, Case # 12-1118 EL-GAG Additional Paperwork for Exhibit A-2 and A-3

Dear Mr. Stockhausen;

Per our conversation regarding the updates for Putnam County, Case # 12-1118 EL-GAG.

Enclosed, please find the Authorizing Ordinance for Exhibit A-2, for the newly passed Village of Kalida, Village of Pandora and Riley Township. We have also included the amended Governance Plan, for Exhibit A-3, that has the most recently passed entities, in Putnam County.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact our office at the numbers listed above.

Thank you for your assistance with this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Flowers".

Andrea Flowers
Palmer Energy Company
Consultant for Putnam County

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Technician DMT Date Processed JAN 20 2016

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-11-16

Putnam County, Ohio

Be it resolved by the Village Council of Kalida that:

WHEREAS, the Village Council of Kalida hereby requests Putnam County Commissioners to adopt a resolution, authorizing all actions necessary to effect a Governmental Electricity Aggregation Program with Opt-Out provisions, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Section 4928.20 as a result of the affirmative vote by the electors on the November 5, 2015₅ aggregation ballot question.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of Kalida, State of Ohio that:

Section 1: The Village Council finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the Village, including its residents, businesses and governmental entities, to request Putnam County to institute an Opt-Out Electric Aggregation Program on behalf of the incorporated areas of the County.

Section 2: The Village Council authorizes Putnam County Commissioners to enter into agreements to facilitate the sale and purchase of electricity for the retail electric loads within the Village following the approval of the ballot question by the electors of the Village and certification of the vote by the Board of Elections.

Adopted the 11th day of November, 2015
Year

Alan M. Anderson
Village Mayor

Attest: Rita Schneider
Village Fiscal Officer

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-642

Putnam County, Ohio

Be it resolved by the Village Council of Pandora that:

WHEREAS, the Village Council of Pandora hereby requests Putnam County Commissioners to adopt a resolution, authorizing all actions necessary to effect a Governmental Electricity Aggregation Program with Opt-Out provisions, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Section 4928.20 as a result of the affirmative vote by the electors on the November 5, 2015 aggregation ballot question.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Village Council of Pandora, State of Ohio that:

Section 1: The Village Council finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the Village, including its residents, businesses and governmental entities, to request Putnam County to institute an Opt-Out Electric Aggregation Program on behalf of the incorporated areas of the County.

Section 2: The Village Council authorizes Putnam County Commissioners to enter into agreements to facilitate the sale and purchase of electricity for the retail electric loads within the Village following the approval of the ballot question by the electors of the Village and certification of the vote by the Board of Elections.

Adopted the 22nd day of December, 2015

Village of Pandora


John C. Schlumbohm, Mayor

Attest:


Kimberly D. Reese, Fiscal Officer

RESOLUTION NO. 12-03-15

Putnam County, Ohio

Be it resolved by the Township Trustees of Riley Township that:

WHEREAS, the Township Trustees of Riley Township hereby requests Putnam County Commissioners to adopt a resolution, authorizing all actions necessary to effect a Governmental Electricity Aggregation Program with Opt-Out provisions, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code, Section 4928.20 as a result of the affirmative vote by the electors on the November 5, 2015 aggregation ballot question.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Riley Township, State of Ohio that:

Section 1: The Board of Trustees finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the Township, including its residents, businesses and governmental entities, to request Putnam County to institute an Opt-Out Electric Aggregation Program on behalf of the unincorporated areas of the County.

Section 2: The Board of Trustees authorizes Putnam County Commissioners to enter into agreements to facilitate the sale and purchase of electricity for the retail electric loads within the Township following the approval of the ballot question by the electors of the Township and certification of the vote by the Board of Elections.

Adopted the 3 day of December, 2015
YearAlbert A. AmstutzWilliam J. SchaeferMark H. Hunsinger
Township Trustees

Attest:

Marcia L. Schultz
Township Fiscal Officer

Putnam County

Electric Power

Aggregation

Plan of Operation and

Governance

November __, 2015

Putnam County

Electric Governmental Aggregation

Plan of Operation and Governance

- I. **INTRODUCTION.** On, November 3, 2015 a majority of voters in various communities in Putnam County Ohio, approved a referendum that authorized the formation of an “opt-out” governmental aggregation in compliance with Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code regarding the governmental aggregation of electric service consumers.

These communities decided to utilize their aggregation authority jointly through Putnam County Ohio are permitted to do so under Section 4928.20 (A) of the Ohio Revised Code.

Putnam County (“County” or “Putnam County”) anticipates that utilizing its aggregation authority will provide individual residential and small commercial consumers benefits such as price reductions that these consumers are typically unable to obtain since they lack the bargaining power, expertise and the economies of scale enjoyed by larger consumers.

- II. **PROCESS.** In the election listed below, Putnam County voters in the following villages and townships, approved the development of a form of governmental electric aggregation known as “opt-out” aggregation. On November 3, 2015, the creation of an Aggregation Program was approved by the electors of Kalida Village, Pandora Village and Riley Township. Under an opt-out aggregation program, all residential and small business customers in the authorized areas of Putnam County are automatically included as participants in the Aggregation Program unless they opt-out of the program by providing written notice of their intention not to participate. As required by Ohio Law, the various communities jointly participating in the County governmental aggregation passed a Resolution or Ordinance, which authorized submitting the selection of opt-out aggregation to the community’s voters.

In addition to obtaining necessary voter approvals, Putnam County is also required to comply with various PUCO regulations. As required by PUCO regulations the County will file an application with the PUCO for certification as a Government Aggregator after the County Approves this Aggregation Plan of Operations and Governance (“Plan” or “Aggregation Plan”). As required by regulations, the County advertised public hearing dates to discuss the Plan and held two hearings on the Plan.

The County anticipates selection of a Provider prior to or shortly after receiving approval from the PUCO as a governmental aggregator. Upon Provider selection an Opt-out notice for the County’s Program will be sent to all eligible electric customers setting forth the rates, terms and conditions of the program. This notice will provide potential Aggregation participants at least 21 days to return an opt-out card or other similar notice.

- III. **CONTRACT.** The supply contract (“Contract”) negotiated between the Governmental Aggregator and the selected Provider shall be for firm, full requirements power supply. Each Aggregation participant shall be individually bound by the terms and conditions found in the opt-out notice and the Contract and shall be solely responsible for payment and performance. The power supply charges for Aggregation participants shall be negotiated and included in the

Contract. These charges shall take the form of either a fixed price or a price representing a percentage below the electric distribution utility's ("EDU") avoidable costs ("Avoidable") or Price to compare ("PTC"). These charges will be fully and prominently disclosed in the consumer opt-out materials provided to potential Aggregation participants and available by calling the Provider's toll free customer service telephone number.

The County's Retail Electric Generation Provider shall meet each of the following requirements:

- Has sufficient power supplies arranged and structure in place to provide retail firm power to the Members.
- Has a Federal Power Marketer license with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- Is certified as a CRES by the PUCO.
- Registered as a generation supplier with the EDU prior to flowing power to Members.
- Has appropriate Transmission Service agreement(s) in place to serve the Members.
- Has or has arranged for an Electronic Data Interchange computer network that is capable of handling the County's Members requirements with the EDU.
- Has the ability to educate Members on the County's Aggregation Program.
- Has or has arranged for a call center capable of handling the County's Aggregation Group customer calls.
- Has a toll-free number as required by the PUCO for customer service inquiries and potential complaints related to the County Program.
- Will hold the County financially harmless from any financial obligations arising from supplying power to the Members.
- Satisfies the EDU's and County's credit requirements.
- Will assist the County and its consultant in filing reports required by the PUCO and Sections 4805.10(A), 4911.18(A) and 4928.06(F) of the Ohio Revised Code.

IV. **DEFINITIONS.** In order to clarify certain terminology, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

"Aggregation Program" or "Program" means the program developed by the County, as a Government Aggregator under Section 4928.20 Ohio Revised Code, to provide eligible residential and small business consumers with retail electric generation services.

"Government Aggregator" means Putnam County using its legislative authority to act as an aggregator for the provision of a competitive retail electric service under the authority conferred under Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code.

"Member" or "Aggregation Participant" means a person or consumer enrolled in the County Program for competitive retail electric services.

"Retail Electric Generation Provider" ("Provider") means an entity certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") to provide competitive retail electric service(s), and which is chosen by the County to be the entity responsible to provide the required service related to Government Aggregation as defined in Section 4928.20 of the Ohio Revised Code and applicable provisions of the rules of the PUCO.

“Competitive Retail Electric Service” (“CRES”) means a component of electric retail service that is deemed competitive pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code or pursuant to an order of the PUCO.

- V. **GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATION SERVICES.** Government aggregation, the combining of multiple electric loads by a governmental entity, provides a means for residential consumers and small commercial consumers in the County to obtain economic benefits from Ohio’s competitive retail electric market. The County Aggregation Program combines the electric loads of residential customers and small commercial consumers into a buying group (“Aggregation Group”). The County will act as Purchasing Agent for the Aggregation Group. This means that the County will be a Governmental Aggregator, as defined by Ohio law and the rules established by the PUCO, and shall act on behalf of eligible residential and small commercial consumers in the County to: 1) select a Retail Electric Generation Provider (“Provider”) to supply the Aggregation Group; 2) negotiate the terms of supply between the Provider and each Aggregation participant; and 3) oversee the enrollment procedures administered by the Provider.
- A. Provider: The County will use its Provider to perform and manage aggregation services for its Members. The Provider shall provide adequate, accurate, and understandable pricing terms and conditions of service, including any switching fees and the conditions under which a Member may rescind a contract without penalty. The Provider must provide the County or its authorized consultant, if requested, an electronic file containing the Members usage, and charges. Upon request this information shall be sent to the County or its authorized consultant within 30 days. The Provider must have local and/or a toll free number for Members to call.
- B. Database: The Retail Electric Generation Provider will build and maintain a database of all Members. The database will include all necessary information for the provider and the County to serve the Aggregation. This information includes but is not limited to the name, address, account number or other EDU identifying number(s), and Retail Electric Generation Provider’s account number of the Member, and other pertinent information such as rate code, rider code (if applicable), most recent 12 months of usage and demand, and meter read cycle. This database will be updated and provided to the County and/or its consultant at least quarterly. Accordingly, the Provider will implement a process to accommodate at Members that: 1) leave the program due to relocation, opting out, etc.; 2) decide to enter or opt-into the Program; 3) relocate within eligible areas within the County; and 4) move into the County and desire to enter or opt-in to the Program. This database shall also be capable of removing PIPP customers from the Program, should that be necessary, and those who have opted out. The Retail Electric Generation Provider will use this database to perform bill audits for clerical and mathematical accuracy of Member bills.
- C. Member Education: The Provider will develop, with the assistance of the County and its authorized consultant, an educational program that generally explains the Aggregation Program to Members, provides updates and disclosures mandated by Ohio law and PUCO rules, and implements a process to deal with allowing any person enrolled in the Aggregation Program the opportunity to opt out of the program at least every three years, without paying a switching fee to the County or the Provider.

- D. Customer Service: The County will administer a customer service process that, at a minimum, will accommodate: 1) Member inquiries and complaints about billing; and 2) answer questions regarding the Program in general. This process will, at a minimum, include a description of how telephone inquiries will be handled (either internally or externally), how invoices will be prepared, how remittance of payment will be dealt with, and how collections for delinquent accounts will be addressed. See Appendix B for a detailed description of the Customer Service Plan.
- E. Billing: The County will use the Provider, or its designated agent, to provide billing services to each Member for the Competitive Retail Electric Services, with no additional administrative fee. At this time, the EDU will render the billing statement, which should be consistent with all applicable guidelines issued by the PUCO. As this market develops, the County may, at its option and in consultation with the Provider, change this function to the Retail Electric Generation Provider or a billing agency.
- F. Compliance Process: The Provider will have internal controls and processes that ensure the County remains in good standing as a Government Aggregator and that it complies with all laws, rules and regulations surrounding the same, as they may be amended from time to time. The Provider will deliver periodic reports to the County and its consultant that will include at a minimum (i) the number of Members participating in the Program; and (ii) a savings estimate or increase from the previous year's baseline. The Provider will also develop a process to monitor and provide notification to the County of any changes in laws, rules or regulations.
- G. Notification to EDU: The County's potential Aggregation participants that do not opt-out of the Aggregation Group will be enrolled automatically in the Aggregation Program. Members in the Aggregation Group will not be asked to take other affirmative steps in order to be included in the Group. To the extent that the EDU requires notification of participation, the County will coordinate with its Provider to provide such notice to the EDU. The Provider will inform the EDU of any individuals who may have been permitted to join the Aggregation Group after the expiration of the enrollment period.
- H. Activation of Service. After a notice is sent out to all electric customers in the County providing 21 days to opt out of the Program, all customers who do not opt out will be automatically enrolled in the Program. During this opt-out period eligible consumers may opt-out of the County's Aggregation Group without fees charged by the Provider or the County. Generation service activation will occur thereafter without consumer action beginning on the customer's normal meter read date within the month when power deliveries begin under the Aggregation Program.
- I. Changes, Extension or Renewal of Service. At least every three years all consumers eligible to participate in the County's Program will be given an opportunity to opt into or out of the Program, and reasonable notice will be provided as required by law and PUCO rules. Participants will also be notified of their right to select an alternate generation supplier and of their ability to return to EDU's Standard Service Offer.
- J. Termination of Service. In the event that the Contract is terminated prior to the end of the term, each individual Member of the Aggregation Group will receive written notification of the

termination of the Program at least sixty (60) days prior to termination of service. If the Contract is not extended or renewed, Members will be notified as required by law and the CRES rules of the PUCO in advance of the end of service. Members will also be notified of their right to select an alternate generation supplier and of their ability to return to the EDU's Standard Service Offer upon termination.

- K. Opt-In Procedures. Eligible consumers may request to join the Aggregation Group after the expiration of any enrollment period by contacting the Provider. The Contract shall determine whether the Provider accepts them into the Program, and, if so, at what rate. The agreed upon policy in the Contract shall be consistent with the EDU's service activation requirements. Aggregation Group participants who move from one location to another within eligible areas of the County shall retain their participant status.
- L. Opt-out Outside Enrollment Period. Members who switch to a different generation supplier after the expiration of the Opt-out period will be allowed to do so in correlation with the consumer's next scheduled meter read date but may be charged a switching fee in an amount and method determined by the Contract. Switching to a different generation supplier on the next meter read date, however, will occur when the next meter read date is twelve (12) business days or more from the date of the consumer's notice of intent to opt-out of the Aggregation Group. Notification of intent to opt-out of the Aggregation Group may be made by contacting the Provider by telephone or in writing. Members who opt-out of the Aggregation Group will default to the EDU's Standard Service Offer, until the consumer selects an alternate generation supplier.
- M. Eligibility. Only non-mercantile consumers shall be eligible for the Program through the opt-out process. Other eligibility restrictions such as peak demand or use may be negotiated within the Contract.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES

- A. The Board of County Commissions of Putnam County shall approve through Resolution or Ordinance the Plan of Operation and Governance for the Aggregation program and any Amendments thereto.
- B. The County will require any Provider to disclose any subcontractors that it uses in fulfillment of the services described above.
- C. The County will require the Provider to maintain either a toll free telephone number, or a telephone number that is local to County Program Members.

VII. LIABILITY. THE COUNTY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO MEMBERS IN THE AGGREGATION GROUP FOR ANY CLAIMS WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF THE AGGREGATION PROGRAM OR THE PROVISION OF AGGREGATION SERVICES BY THE COUNTY OR THE PROVIDER. AGGREGATION GROUP MEMBERS SHALL ASSERT ANY SUCH CLAIMS SOLELY AGAINST THE PROVIDER PURSUANT TO THE POWER SUPPLY AGREEMENT, UNDER WHICH SUCH PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPRESS THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARIES.

VIII. **INFORMATION AND COMPLAINT NUMBERS**

Potential participants can receive more information about the program or Copies of this Plan from the County free of charge by calling 419-523-3656.

Any electric customer, including any participant in the County's Aggregation Program, may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for information, or to make a complaint against the Program, the Provider or EDU. The PUCO may be reached toll free at 1-800-686-7826.

Appendix A -- Education Process

The Provider will develop an educational program in conjunction with the County. Its purpose will be to explain the aggregation program to County Members, provide updates and disclosures as mandated by State law and the rules of the PUCO, and provide the opportunity for the members to opt out of the program. The following are the program components:

1. Each eligible consumer within the County limits will receive via U.S. Mail notification of: what government aggregation means, their membership in the government aggregation program, the procedure which must be followed in order to opt out of the program, the price that they can expect to receive as a member of the program, and the deadline for returning the opt out form. See the attached letter.
2. The Provider will work with the County to provide opportunities for educating eligible County consumers about the Program and their rights under the law, PUCO rules and this Program. In addition, the Provider and County will work to provide education about and other opportunities for energy efficiency measures to help consumers reduce energy consumption.
3. The Provider will provide updates and disclosures as mandated by State law and rules of the PUCO.
4. The opt-out opportunity will be provided to the Members of the program at least every three years. Should conditions, suppliers, price, or any other component of the program change within the three-year period, participants will be given a notice of their opportunity to opt out of, or into the program.

January __, 2016

Dear _____ County Resident,

_____ County is providing you the opportunity to join other residents to save money on the electricity you use. Savings are possible through governmental aggregation, where your community officials bring together citizens to gain group buying power for the purchase of electricity from a retail electric generation provider certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Your community voters approved this program in November 2011.

After researching competitive electricity pricing options for you, has chosen _____ to provide you with electric generation through _____. There is no cost for enrollment and you will not be charged a switching fee. You do not need to do anything to participate.

As a member of this aggregation, your electricity supplies will be priced at _____ or approximately _____ below your Price to Compare. Your Price to Compare is essentially the price you pay for electric generation from the utility and consists of generation and transmission related components, which are the costs associated with generating the power and delivering it through the transmission system.

To estimate what your savings per kilowatt-hour (KWH) will be through this program, locate your Price to Compare on your electric bill. Divide your Price to Compare by 100 then _____ to estimate your savings per KWH. Multiply that number by your total monthly usage to determine how much you can expect to save each month you use the same amount of electricity.

You will see your electric savings after your enrollment has been completed and your switch has been finalized – approximately 30 - 45 days, depending upon your meter read date. Of course, you are not obligated to participate in the County electric governmental aggregation program. If you wish to be excluded from the program and remain a full-service customer of your local electric utility – _____ – you have until _____ to return the attached “opt-out” form. If you do not opt out at this time, you will receive a notice at least every three years asking if you wish to remain in the program. If you leave the program at any other time, you could be subject to a \$ _____ cancellation fee from _____ – and you might not be served under the same rates, terms and conditions that apply to other customers served by your local electric distribution utility.

After you become a participant in this governmental aggregation program, your local electric distribution utility will send you a notice confirming your selection of _____ as your electric generation provider. As required by law, this letter will inform you of your option to cancel your contract with _____ within seven days of its postmark. To remain in the County’s governmental aggregation program, you don’t need to take any action when this letter arrives.

Your local electric distribution utility will continue to maintain the system that delivers power to your home or business – no new poles or wires will be built by _____. You will continue to receive a single, easy-to-read bill from your local electric utility that includes with your _____ charges included. The only thing you’ll notice is savings.

If you have any questions, please call _____ toll-free at 1-866-636-3749, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please do not call your County with aggregation program questions.

Sincerely,

_____ County

P.S. To receive these savings, **you should not respond**. Return the opt-out form only if you do not want to participate in the County’s electric governmental aggregation program.

Option 1: Do nothing and save.
If you want to participate in this program and save, you do not need to return this form. Your enrollment is automatic.

OR

Option 2: Opt out by returning this form.
If you do not want to participate in this program, you must return this form before the due date.

Account #

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Service address (City, state and Zip): _____

Phone number: _____

Account holder's signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail by _____, 2016 to _____ County Electric Governmental Aggregation Program, _____

Appendix B --- Customer Service Plan

A. Member Access:

1. Provider shall ensure Members reasonable access to their service representatives for inquiries, complaints, to discuss charges on Member bills, and transact any other business.
2. Telephone access shall be toll free and afford Members prompt answer times during normal business hours, as follows:

_____ Corporation
Address: _____
City: _____, _____
Toll-free telephone number: 1- _____
Hours: _____

3. Provider shall provide a 24-hour automated telephone message instructing callers to report any service interruptions or electrical emergencies to the EDU with appropriate phone numbers.

B. Member Complaints:

1. Provider shall investigate Member complaints (including complaints referred by EDU) and provide a status report within five calendar days following receipt of the complaint to:
 - a. The consumer, when the complaint is made directly to Provider; or
 - b. The consumer and The PUCO Staff ("Commission Staff"), when a complaint is referred to Provider by the Commission Staff.
2. If an investigation is not completed within 14 calendar days, Provider shall provide status reports to the consumer and the County, or if applicable, to the consumer, the County, the County consultant and the Commission Staff. Such status reports shall be provided at five-day intervals until the investigation is complete, unless the action that must be taken will require more than five days and the Member has been so notified.
3. Provider shall inform the Member, or the Member, the County, County consultant and Commission Staff, of the results of the investigation, orally or in writing, no later than five calendar days after completion of the investigation. The consumer, the County, the County consultant, or Commission Staff may request the report in writing.
4. If a residential consumer disputes the Provider report, it shall inform the consumer that the Commission Staff is available to help resolve informal complaints. Provider shall provide the consumer with the current address, local/toll free telephone numbers, and TDD/TTY telephone numbers of the Commission's consumer services department.

5. Provider shall retain records of Member complaints, investigations, and complaint resolutions for one year after the occurrence of such complaints, and shall provide such records to the Commission Staff within five calendar days of request.
6. Provider shall make good faith efforts to resolve disputes.

C. Member Billing and Payments

The County will use the Provider, or its designated agent, to provide billing services to each Member for the Competitive Retail Electric Services, with no additional administrative fee. At this time, the EDU will render the billing statement, which should be consistent with all applicable guidelines issued by the PUCO. As this market develops, the County may, at its option and in consultation with the Provider, change this function to the Retail Electric Generation Provider or a billing agency.

D. Collections for delinquent accounts:

The EDU's credit and collection policies will apply to Program Members and shall be administered by the EDU. Neither the Governmental Aggregator, nor the Provider, will implement additional policies with respect to credit, deposits and collections. Failure to pay for Competitive Retail Electric Services may result in cancellation of the Member's contract with the Provider, and return the Member to the EDU's Standard Service Offer.