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September 2, 2016

Ms. Barcy F. McNeal
Docketing Division
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: *In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company to Initiate
Phase 2 of its gridSMART Project and to Establish the gridSMART
Phase 2 Rider, Case No. 13-1939-EL-RDR*

Dear Ms. McNeal:

On February 1, 2013, Ohio Power Company ("AEP Ohio") filed in the above-referenced docket, an application to initiate a Phase 2 for its gridSMART project and Rider. On April 7, 2016, AEP Ohio filed a proposed Stipulation and Recommendation for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's consideration.

The Retail Energy Supply Association ("RESA")¹ filed a motion to intervene in this proceeding on October 24, 2013, which was granted on June 14, 2016. A hearing was held in August and the Attorney Examiner established a schedule for filing briefs, with today being the deadline for the initial briefs.

Although it is not a signatory party to the proposed Stipulation and Recommendation, RESA writes to express its support for a Phase 2 deployment of AEP Ohio's gridSMART project. That deployment will allow further development of the competitive market in AEP Ohio's service territory and lead to many more products and services for a broader

¹ The comments expressed in this filing represent the position of RESA as an organization but may not represent the views of any particular member of the Association. Founded in 1990, RESA is a broad and diverse group of more than twenty retail energy suppliers dedicated to promoting efficient, sustainable and customer-oriented competitive retail energy markets. RESA members operate throughout the United States delivering value-added electricity and natural gas service at retail to residential, commercial and industrial energy customers. More information on RESA can be found at www.resausa.org.

Ms. Barcy F. McNeal

September 2, 2016

Page 2

segment of the customers in AEP Ohio's service territory. Specifically, the deployment of advanced meter infrastructure ("AMI") meters will allow CRES providers to develop products tailored to the customers' needs and desires. Additionally, RESA supports the development of CRES provider time-of-use products (via the basic framework of the proposed transition plan). As RESA has noted in the past, time-of-use and other time-differentiated products are competitive products and should be offered by the competitive market (not the electric distribution utility). The proposed transition plan will move AEP Ohio out of providing such products and allow CRES providers to have access to the interval data, which will allow CRES providers to offer more time-of-use products to customers.

RESA further supports the establishment of a gridSMART collaborative, so that all stakeholders have the opportunity to ensure the successful deployment of gridSMART equipment, technologies, etc., as well as monitor the Phase 2 activities.

Please accept this correspondence for filing in the case docket for the above-referenced proceeding.

Very truly yours,



Michael J. Settineri

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP

Attorneys for the Retail Energy Supply Association

/glp

cc: Parties of Record

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Case No(s). 13-1939-EL-RDR

Summary: Correspondence in support for a Phase 2 deployment of AEP Ohio's gridSMART project electronically filed by Mr. Michael J. Settineri on behalf of Retail Energy Supply Association