

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of The)
Dayton Power and Light Company for) Case No. 16-0395-EL-SSO
Approval of its Electric Security Plan.)

In the Matter of Application of The)
Dayton Power and Light Company for) Case No. 16-0396-EL-ATA
Approval of Revised Tariffs.)

In the Matter of the Application of The)
Dayton Power and Light Company for) Case No. 16-0397-EL-AAM
Approval of Certain Accounting Authority)
Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code §4905.13.)

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
CHERISH CRONMILLER
ON BEHALF OF EDMONT NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION**

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, TITLE, AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2 A. My name is Cherish Cronmiller. My business address is 719 S. Main St. Dayton,
3 Ohio 45402. I am on the executive team of Community Action Partnership, and I
4 am submitted my testimony on behalf of the Edgemont Neighborhood Coalition
5 ("Coalition.")
6

7 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY FILED TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

8 Yes.
9

10 Q. WHAT IS THE SUBJECT OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

11 A. The purpose of my testimony is to express support for the settlement stipulation
12 ("Stipulation") signed January 30, 2017.
13

14 Q. WHY DOES THE COALITION SUPPORT THE STIPULATION?

15 A. The stipulation provides for annual assistance to support consumers at or below
16 200% of the federal poverty line or those at risk of losing electric service. The
17 stipulation is consistent with O.R.C. Section 4928.02(L) in protecting at-risk
18 populations. The increase and proposed five year term is consistent with policy
19 that benefits the public interest.
20

21 Though the stipulated amount is below what I suggested in my past testimony,
22 there is an increase over the amount last received in 2014, which will allow us to

1 assist more customers in need. The Coalition commends DP&L for its effort and
2 compromise to address the issues of concerns by these entities.

3 These funds will be used to fill a gap between Summer Crisis and Winter Crisis
4 dollars through the Home Energy Assistance Program that help people with a
5 utility shut-off, or attempting to get back onto a payment or assistance program.

6
7 Q. IS THIS STIPULATION OF BENEFIT TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST?

8 A. Yes, In Montgomery County, nearly one in five people, 19.6 percent, were living
9 below the poverty line in 2014, according to the data. That's about the same as
10 the previous year, but a significant increase from 14.6 percent in 2007, the year
11 the documented recession began. Median household incomes for Montgomery
12 County have fallen, about \$7,500 since 2007. One cause of the high poverty rate
13 is that higher-paying, full-time jobs are being replaced with jobs that don't pay a
14 living wage, or jobs that are part-time or temporary. Utility costs were cited as the
15 major housing concern for over 46% of our CAP customers, and of those, 53%
16 cited utility assistance as their greatest overall need. These statistics correlate to
17 figures released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics last year: In the \$15,000 to
18 \$19,999 yearly income range, 11.1% of income is spent on utilities, versus a
19 household income of over \$150,000 which only spends 4.8% on income on
20 utilities. In most of the counties in the DP&L service territory, more than 30
21 percent of all households would be eligible for benefits from the fuel fund. The
22 electric need is staggering. In the 2016 Winter Crisis program, in Montgomery
23 County, twice as many funds were expended for electric services than for natural

1 gas, and in rural counties like Darke and Preble, eight times as much was paid
2 out in electric assistance over natural gas (though it should be noted that rural
3 counties rely heavily on propane and fuel oil.)
4

5 Q. DO YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION FOR THE COMMISSION?

6 A. Yes, I recommend that the Commission approve the Stipulation.
7

8 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

9 A. Yes.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the Testimony of Cherish Cronmiller has been served electronically upon the persons listed below this 6th day of February 2017.

/s/Ellis Jacobs

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.
On behalf of Edgemont Neighborhood
Coalition

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This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

2/6/2017 5:19:25 PM

in

Case No(s). 16-0395-EL-SSO, 16-0396-EL-ATA, 16-0397-EL-AAM

Summary: Testimony Testimony of Cherish Cronmiller electronically filed by Mr. Ellis Jacobs
on behalf of Edgemont Neighborhood Coalition