

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
THE OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES  
AGENCY FOR AN ORDER APPROVING  
ADJUSTMENTS TO THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE  
FUND RIDER OF JURISDICTIONAL OHIO  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES.

CASE NO. 17-1377-EL-USF

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on June 7, 2017

{¶ 1} On June 1, 2017,<sup>1</sup> the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) filed a notice of intent (NOI) to file an application to adjust the Universal Service Fund (USF) riders of all Ohio jurisdictional electric distribution utilities in accordance with R.C. 4928.52., specifically, Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company (CEI), Dayton Power and Light Company (DP&L), Duke Energy Ohio Inc. (Duke), Ohio Edison Company (OE), Ohio Power Company (OP),<sup>2</sup> and Toledo Edison Company (TE) (collectively, EDUs).

{¶ 2} Each of the entities, CEI, DP&L, Duke, OE, OP and TE, is an electric distribution utility, as defined in R.C. 4298.01(A)(6), and a public utility, as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission. Accordingly, the above noted EDUs should be joined as indispensable parties to this proceeding.

{¶ 3} The Commission approved the current USF rider rates for each of the EDUs to be effective, on a bills-rendered basis, beginning with the January 2017 billing cycle as set forth below:

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<sup>1</sup> Pleadings electronically filed with the Commission's Docketing Division after 5:30 PM are processed as received on the next business day.

<sup>2</sup> By Entry issued on March 7, 2012, the Commission approved and confirmed the merger of Columbus Southern Power Co. (CSP) into OP, effective December 31, 2011; however the USF rates of CSP and OP have not been consolidated. *In re AEP Ohio*, Case No. 10-2376-EL-UNC, Entry (Mar. 7, 2012) at 11; *In re ODSA*, Case No. 15-1046-EL-USF, Opinion and Order (Oct. 28, 2015) at 21-22.

Electric Utility	First 833,000 Kwh	Above 833,000 Kwh
CEI	\$ 0.0010497	\$ 0.0005680
CSP rate zone	\$ 0.0001430	\$ 0.0001430
DP&L	\$ 0.0007710	\$ 0.0005700
Duke	\$ 0.0002896	\$ 0.0002896
OE	\$ 0.00014456	\$ 0.0010461
OP	\$ 0.0010772	\$ 0.0001681
TE	\$ 0.0004615	\$ 0.0004615

*In re ODSA*, Case No. 16-1223-EL-USF (2016 USF Case), Opinion and Order (Dec. 21, 2016) at 12; Entry Nunc Pro Tunc (Jan. 4, 2017) at 2.

{¶ 4} R.C. 4928.52(B) provides that if, during or after the five-year market development period, ODSA, after consultation with the Public Benefits Advisory Board, determines that revenues in the USF and revenues from federal or other sources of funding for those programs will be insufficient to cover the administrative costs of the low-income customer assistance programs and the consumer education program and provide adequate funding for those programs, ODSA shall file a petition with the Commission for an increase in the USF riders. The Commission, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, may adjust the USF riders by the minimum amount necessary to provide additional revenues.

{¶ 5} In the 2016 USF Case, the Commission approved the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation (2016 Adjustment Stipulation) signed by all the parties, except Ohio Consumers' Counsel, The Kroger Company, Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy and Duke. However, none of the non-signatory parties opposed the 2016 Adjustment Stipulation. The 2016 Adjustment Stipulation provided, among other things, that ODSA would file an NOI to apply for the annual USF rider adjustment by no later than

May 31, 2017, stating the proposed methodology for determining the USF adjustment, in order to allow parties the opportunity to pursue issues that they may wish to raise.

{¶ 6} On June 1, 2017, in substantial compliance with the terms of the 2016 Adjustment Stipulation, ODSA filed the above-captioned NOI to file an application requesting that each of the USF riders be adjusted to more accurately reflect the current costs of operating the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus program, the Electric Partnership Program, including consumer education, and associated administrative costs.

{¶ 7} According to its NOI, ODSA plans to employ a USF rider revenue requirement and rate design methodologies significantly similar to that approved by the Commission in the *2016 USF Case* and prior USF proceedings. As in previous USF applications, ODSA proposes to incorporate a two-step declining block rate design.

{¶ 8} Consistent with the approved 2016 Adjustment Stipulation, the following procedural schedule should be established:

File objections or comments	June 30, 2017
File motions to intervene	June 30, 2017
Prehearing conference	Upon request of any party
File responses to objections and comments	July 10, 2017
Discovery completion	July 17, 2017
File Direct Testimony	July 24, 2017
File Reply Testimony	August 1, 2017
Evidentiary Hearing	August 9, 2017
File Post-Hearing Briefs	August 16, 2017
File Reply Briefs	August 21, 2017

{¶ 9} All Ohio jurisdictional EDUs shall be joined as indispensable parties to this proceeding. Any interested persons wishing to intervene in this matter shall file a motion to intervene on or before June 30, 2017. Further, any objections or comments to ODSA's proposed rate design methodology shall be filed on or before June 30, 2017. Any reply comments must be filed on or before July 10, 2017.

{¶ 10} This matter will be set for a prehearing conference, upon the request of one or more of the parties to the case. The purpose of a prehearing conference would be to permit the parties to discuss any issues they may have concerning the proposed revenue requirement and rate design methodologies.

{¶ 11} This matter should be set for an evidentiary hearing on August 9, 2017, at 9:00 a.m., in Hearing Room C, 11th floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

{¶ 12} It is, therefore,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That all Ohio jurisdictional EDUs be joined as indispensable parties to this proceeding. It is, further,

{¶ 14} ORDERED, That interested person wishing to intervene in this proceeding file a motion to intervene on or before June 30, 2017. It is, further,

{¶ 15} ORDERED, That any interested party wishing to file objections/comments concerning the proposed rate design methodology file the objections/comments on or before June 30, 2017, and file reply comments on or before July 10, 2017. It is, further,

{¶ 16} ORDERED, That the parties adhere to the case schedule as set forth in Paragraph 8. It is, further,

{¶ 17} ORDERED, That the evidentiary hearing commence as set forth in Paragraph 11. It is, further,

{¶ 18} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served on all parties of record in this case, as well as all parties of record in Case No. 16-1223-EL-USF.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Greta See

By: Greta See  
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/dah

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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**Case No(s). 17-1377-EL-USF**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry orders, in this proceeding, all Ohio jurisdictional EDUs be joined as indispensable parties; that interested person wishing to intervene file a motion to intervene or file objections/comments concerning the proposed rate design methodology on or before June 30, 2017, and file reply comments on or before July 10, 2017; and that the evidentiary hearing commence as set forth in Paragraph 11. Entry electronically filed by Debra Hight on behalf of Greta See, Attorney Examiner.