

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE POWERFORWARD  
COLLABORATIVE

CASE NO. 18-1595-EL-GRD

IN THE MATTER OF THE POWERFORWARD  
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING  
WORKGROUP

CASE NO. 18-1596-EL-GRD

IN THE MATTER OF THE POWERFORWARD  
DATA AND MODERN GRID WORKGROUP

CASE NO. 18-1597-EL-GRD

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on October 24, 2018

#### I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} In this Entry, the Commission begins the process of implementing the PowerForward Roadmap and establishes the PowerForward Collaborative as well as the Distribution System Planning Workgroup and the Data and Modern Grid Workgroup.

#### II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} In 2017, the Commission announced its intention to advance a comprehensive grid modernization endeavor entitled PowerForward. PowerForward is built upon the pairing of two pillars: (i) innovation, and the concept that this innovation should serve to (ii) enhance the customer electricity experience. PowerForward consisted of three open meeting phases: Phase 1: A Glimpse of the Future; Phase 2: Exploring Technologies; and Phase 3: Ratemaking and Regulation. Over the duration of these Phases, 127 industry experts provided approximately 100 hours of education to Commissioners and members of the Staff regarding a variety of grid modernization topics.

{¶ 3} On August 29, 2018, the Commission released *PowerForward: A Roadmap to Ohio's Electricity Future* (Roadmap). The Roadmap makes a number of recommendations about the future of the distribution grid, and further recommends the creation of a PowerForward Collaborative (Collaborative) along with two additional workgroups, the Distribution System Planning Workgroup (PWG) and the Data and Modern Grid

Workgroup (DWG). The Collaborative, the PWG and the DWG will not only serve to continue the robust discussion had during the three Phases, but they are also meant to address specific tasks articulated in the Roadmap and make recommendations to the Commission after deeper discussion between Staff and interested stakeholders.

{¶ 4} The Collaborative is meant to be a broader, more overarching group that is to be led by the Staff. The Collaborative is to function as an interactive forum tasked with monitoring, facilitating and accommodating the evolution of a marketplace that promotes innovation and the delivery of products and services which enhance the customer experience in a manner consistent with the principles and objectives identified in the PowerForward Roadmap. The Collaborative shall remain flexible in approach and perspective to assure appropriate responsiveness to market dynamics and removal of barriers to that development. Additionally, the Collaborative shall discuss items as requested by the Commission from time to time. The Collaborative should work with interested parties to resolve concerns, and should refer these concerns to the Commission when appropriate. The Roadmap has identified some initial areas that the Collaborative should provide attention to on the topic of electric vehicles (EV), including, but not limited to: broadly monitoring EV manufacturing and the marketplace; studying impacts of EVs to the distribution system; rate design to incent EV charging during off-peak periods; EV corridor deployment; and the development of the marketplace for EV charging stations. Additionally, the Collaborative should determine a process whereby proposals for non-wire alternatives (NWA) can be submitted to the Commission and approved without unnecessary delay.

{¶ 5} The Commission also establishes the Distribution System Planning Workgroup (PWG) to identify issues that currently exist, or that may arise in the integrated distribution planning process. The PWG is to be led by Staff or a facilitator of Staff's choice. The PWG may develop recommendations to the Commission on the following: future scenarios for customer distributed energy resources adoption in Ohio, and how these scenarios should be incorporated into electric distribution utility (EDU) forecasting and

planning processes; modifications to interconnection standards, including defining required functions and settings for advanced inverters; development of NWA suitability criteria, processes and timeline for implementing NWA opportunities; evaluation of options for procuring NWAs; defining hosting capacity analyses (HCA) use cases; identifying an appropriate HCA methodology and associated tools and data requirements to satisfy use cases; a timeline for initial HCA analysis and publication of results for each EDU; and development of portals for sharing information on peak load forecasts, capital plans, hosting capacity maps, heat maps reflecting locational value and other key data. Further, the Commission encourages the PWG to determine a process for identifying where it would be beneficial to deploy storage solutions.

{¶ 6} In addition, the Commission creates the Data and Modern Grid Workgroup (DWG). The DWG should address the following tasks: (i) create protocol for data privacy protections; (ii) drive toward real-time or near real-time data becoming available; and (iii) prescribe methodology for competitive retail electric service (CRES) providers and other third parties to obtain customer energy usage data, including a method for CRES providers to obtain the total hourly energy obligation, peak load contribution, and network service peak load.

{¶ 7} The Collaborative, PWG and DWG should prioritize the substantive items that these groups have been tasked with in the Roadmap and further described in this Entry, but these groups are also given the flexibility, through leadership from the Staff, to add to this list and to prioritize discussion as they deem appropriate. The Roadmap also establishes reporting recommendations to the Commission that these groups should adhere to, and the Commission, from time to time, is free to ask any of these groups to discuss a particular item and make suggestions to the Commission within a particular timeframe.

{¶ 8} At this time, the Commission is prepared to move forward and finds that it is appropriate and consistent with the Roadmap to open three separate dockets for the

PowerForward Collaborative, the Distribution System Planning Workgroup, and the Data and Modern Grid Workgroup, respectively.

{¶ 9} The first meeting of the Collaborative will be held at the offices of the Commission on the 11th floor on December 6, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. The Commission will publish an agenda prior to this meeting on its PowerForward website, and stakeholders planning on attending should send an e-mail to [PowerForward@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:PowerForward@puco.ohio.gov) at least one week prior. The first meetings of the DWG and PWG workgroups will be discussed at this meeting.

{¶ 10} In order to facilitate communications regarding the Collaborative and the workgroups, the Commission will establish separate listservs for the Collaborative, PWG and DWG. We encourage all interested stakeholders to sign up for the appropriate listserv.

{¶ 11} Furthermore, the Commission plans on issuing RFPs in the dockets of the PWG and DWG for facilitators for those two workgroups. These RFPs will be forthcoming.

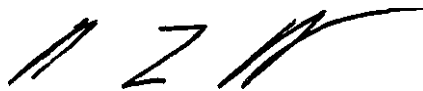
### III. ORDER

It is, therefore,

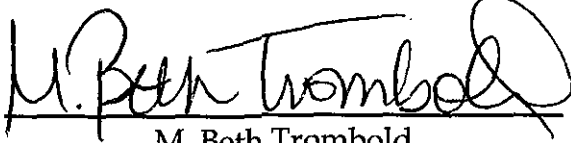
{¶ 12} ORDERED, That three separate dockets be opened for the PowerForward Collaborative, the Distribution System Planning Workgroup, and the Data and Modern Grid Workgroup, respectively. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That the first meeting of the Collaborative be scheduled for December 6, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of the Commission on the 11th floor. It is, further, ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all electric distribution utilities subject to the Commission's jurisdiction, the PowerForward listserv and any interested stakeholders.


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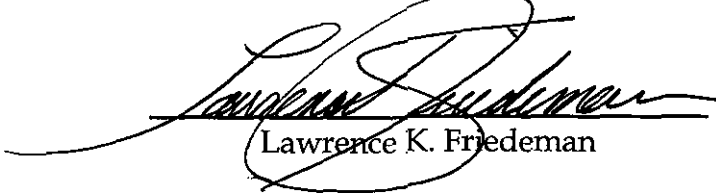
Asim Z. Haque, Chairman



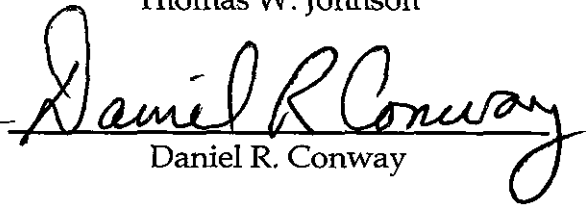
M. Beth Trombold



Thomas W. Johnson



Lawrence K. Friedeman

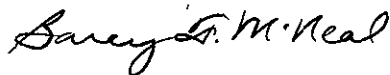


Daniel R. Conway

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OCT 24 2018

Barcy F. McNeal  
Secretary