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 RIDERS OF JURISDICTIONAL OHIO ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES.

CASE NO. 18-976-EL-USF

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on November 1, 2018

- {¶ 1} On May 31, 2018, the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) filed a notice of intent (NOI) to file its annual Universal Service Fund (USF) rider adjustment application on or before October 31, 2018. ODSA's NOI set forth the USF rider revenue requirement methodology and rate design methodology that would be used in preparing its subsequent USF rider adjustment application.
- {¶ 2} By Opinion and Order issued September 19, 2018, the Commission approved, pursuant to a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation, the proposed USF rider revenue requirement methodology and USF rider rate design methodology submitted by ODSA. *In re Ohio Development Services Agency*, Case No. 18-976-EL-USF, Opinion and Order (Sept. 19, 2018).
- {¶ 3} On October 31, 2018, ODSA filed its 2018 USF adjustment application and supporting testimony to adjust the USF riders of all Ohio jurisdictional electric utilities, in accordance with R.C. 4928.52, for the 2019 USF collection period. In its application, ODSA requests that each of the USF riders be adjusted to more accurately reflect the current operating costs of the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus, the Electric Partnership Program, the consumer education program, and associated administrative costs. ODSA requests that the proposed USF riders for the electric utilities be effective January 1, 2019, on a bills-rendered basis. Based on ODSA's analysis, on an aggregated basis, the total annual revenues that will be generated by the current USF riders will be \$66,889,764 less

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than the annual revenues required to meet the objectives identified in R.C. 4928.52(A) for the 2019 collection period.

- **[¶ 4]** R.C. 4928.52(B) provides that if, ODSA, after consultation with the Public Benefits Advisory Board, determines that revenues in the USF, together with revenues from federal or other sources of funding for those programs, will be insufficient to cover the costs of the low-income customer assistance programs and consumer education programs and their related administrative costs, 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} To assist the Commission with its consideration of ODSA's USF adjustment application, the attorney examiner finds the following procedural schedule should be established:
 - (a) If any party to this proceeding requests a prehearing/settlement conference on ODSA's 2018 adjustment application, the conference shall be held on November 15, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., in Conference Room 1247, 12th floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Visitors to the building should bring appropriate identification to register at the lobby desk and then proceed to the 11th floor in order to participate in the prehearing/settlement conference.
 - (b) The hearing on ODSA's 2018 adjustment application will commence on November 27, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., in Hearing Room C, 11th floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

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- $\{\P 6\}$ It is, therefore,
- \P 7 ORDERED, That the procedural schedule set forth in Paragraph 5 be adopted. It is, further,

 $\{\P\ 8\}$ ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served on all persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Greta See

By: Greta See

Attorney Examiner

NJW/hac

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Case No(s). 18-0976-EL-USF

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry establishing procedural schedule electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Greta See, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission