

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Ohio)
Power Company to Initiate its gridSMART) Case No. 19-1475-EL-RDR
Phase 3 Project)
)

**MOTION TO INTERVENE OF
THE OHIO MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION ENERGY GROUP**

Pursuant to R.C. 4903.221 and Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-11, the Ohio Manufacturers' Association Energy Group (OMAEG) respectfully moves the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) to intervene in this matter with the full powers and rights granted to intervening parties. As demonstrated in the attached Memorandum in Support, OMAEG has real and substantial interests that may be adversely affected by the outcome herein, and which cannot be adequately represented by any other existing parties. Accordingly, OMAEG satisfies the standard for intervention set forth in Ohio statutes and regulations.

Therefore, OMAEG respectfully requests that the Commission grant this motion to intervene and that OMAEG be made a full party of record in these proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kimberly W. Bojko _____
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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

On July 26, 2019, the Ohio Power Company (AEP Ohio) filed an Application seeking approval from the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) to initiate Phase 3 of the gridSMART project.¹ Specifically, AEP Ohio seeks approval of its plan to, among other things, complete Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) deployment, thereby allegedly building upon Phase 1 of the gridSMART project, Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO, and Phase 2 of the gridSMART project, Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO.² As explained in more detail below, given the costs of such initiatives and projects, OMAEG has a real and substantial interest in the outcome of these proceedings.

Section 4903.221, Revised Code, and Rule 4901-1-11, Ohio Administrative Code, establish the standard for intervention in the above-captioned proceedings. Section 4903.221, Revised Code, provides, in part, that any person “who may be adversely affected” by a Commission proceeding is entitled to seek intervention in that proceeding. Section 4903.221(B), Revised Code, further requires the Commission to consider the nature and extent of the prospective intervenor’s interest, the legal position advanced by the prospective intervenor and

¹ See Application of Ohio Power Company (July 26, 2019).

² Direct Testimony of Scott S. Osterholt at 8, 44-47 (July 26, 2019).

its probable relation to the merits of the case, whether the intervention by the prospective intervenor will unduly prolong or delay the proceeding, and the prospective intervenor's potential contribution to a just and expeditious resolution of the issues involved.

OMAEG is a non-profit entity that strives to improve business conditions in Ohio and drive down the cost of doing business for Ohio manufacturers. OMAEG members and their representatives work directly with elected officials, regulatory agencies, the judiciary, and the media to provide education and information to energy consumers, regulatory boards and suppliers of energy; advance energy policies to promote an adequate, reliable, and efficient supply of energy at reasonable prices; and advocate in critical cases before the Commission. Indeed, OMAEG has been a participant in other cases before the Commission involving rates charged by AEP Ohio and costs recovered from customers, including AEP Ohio's electric security plan cases.³ Here, OMAEG has an interest in ensuring that any projects or initiatives approved by the Commission are permissible under Ohio law and serve to benefit AEP Ohio's customers.

Therefore, OMAEG has a direct, real, and substantial interest in the issues raised in this proceeding and is so situated that the disposition of these proceedings may, as a practical matter, impair or impede its ability to protect that interest. It is regularly and actively involved in Commission proceedings and, as in previous proceedings, OMAEG's unique knowledge and perspective will contribute to the full development and equitable resolution of the factual issues

³ See In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company for Authority to Establish a Standard Service Offer Pursuant to R.C. 4928.143, in the Form of an Electric Security Plan, Case Nos. 16-1852-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (April 25, 2018) and In the Matter of the Application Seeking Approval of Ohio Power Company's Proposal to Enter into an Affiliate Power Purchase Agreement for Inclusion in the Power Purchase Agreement Rider, et al., Case Nos. 14-1693-EL-RDR, et al. Opinion and Order (March 31, 2016). Also see In the Matter of the Application of Columbus Southern Power Company and Ohio Power Company, Individually and, if Their Proposed Merger is Approved, as a Merged Company (collectively, AEP Ohio) for an Increase in Electric Distribution Rates, et al., Case Nos. 11-351-ELAIR, et al., Entry (November 1, 2011).

in this case. OMAEG's interest will not be adequately represented by other parties and its timely intervention will not unduly delay or prolong these proceedings.

Because OMAEG satisfies the criteria set forth in R.C. 4903.221 and Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-11, it is authorized to intervene in this proceeding with the full powers and rights granted by the Commission to intervening parties. As such, OMAEG respectfully requests that the Commission grant this motion for leave to intervene and that OMAEG be made a full party of record.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kimberly W. Bojko
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Counsel for OMAEG

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was served upon all parties of record via electronic mail September 6, 2019.

/s/ Kimberly W. Bojko
Kimberly W. Bojko

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Case No(s). 19-1475-EL-RDR

Summary: Motion to Intervene of The Ohio Manufacturers' Association Energy Group electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly W. Bojko on behalf of OMA Energy Group