

BEFORE
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	:	Case No. 19-1270-EL-USF
Universal Service Fund Riders of	:	
Jurisdictional Ohio Electric Distribution	:	
Utilities.	:	

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF JOINT STIPULATION

BY

MEGAN MEADOWS

ON BEHALF OF
THE OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY

December 3, 2019

TESTIMONY OF MEGAN MEADOWS
On Behalf of The Ohio Development Services Agency

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Megan Meadows. My business address is Ohio Development Services
3 Agency ("Development"), 77 South High Street, 26th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43216-
4 1001.

5 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

6 A. I am employed by Development as Deputy Chief of the Office of Community Assistance
7 ("OCA"), an office within Development's Division of Community Services.

8 **Q. Are you the same Megan Meadows who filed direct testimony in support of the**
9 **Universal Service Fund ("USF") rider adjustment application in this proceeding on**
10 **October 31, 2019 and the amended application on November 26, 2019?**

11 A. Yes, I am. That testimony sets forth my educational background and employment
12 experience, as well as my duties and responsibilities in my current position as OCA's
13 Deputy Chief.

14 **Q. Have you previously testified before this Commission?**

15 A. Yes, I testified in prior USF rider adjustment proceedings, Case Nos. 16-1223-EL-USF,
16 17-1377-EL-USF, and 18-976-EL-USF.

17 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

18 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation
19 ("Joint Stipulation") filed contemporaneously with this testimony in support. The Joint
20 Stipulation, which seeks approval of Development's amended application ("Amended

Application”), was filed December 3, 2019, and was entered into by Development, The Dayton Power & Light Company, Ohio Power Company, Duke Energy Ohio, the Industrial Energy Users – Ohio, and Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy (“OPAE”); however, OPAE does not join in Paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Stipulation. Staff and the Office of the Ohio Consumers’ Counsel have not joined the stipulation, but do not oppose it. The Signatory Parties recommend that the Commission issue an Opinion and Order approving the Amended Application filed November 26, 2019. This testimony demonstrates that: (1) the Joint Stipulation is a product of serious bargaining among capable, knowledgeable parties; (2) the Joint Stipulation does not violate any important regulatory principle or practice; and (3) the Joint Stipulation, as a whole, will benefit customers and the public interest.

Q. Please summarize the major provisions of the Joint Stipulation.

A. The Joint Stipulation adopts the annual USF rider revenue requirement and the USF rider rate to collect the revenue requirement for each of the electric distribution utilities (“EDUs”) in 2020. The Joint Stipulation further agrees to follow the NOI process first adopted in Case No. 04-1616-EL-UNC and requires Development to file its NOI by May 31, 2020, and its application no later than October 31, 2020.

Q. Does the Joint Stipulation represent a product of serious bargaining among capable, knowledgeable parties?

A. Yes, it does. The parties to this case have been actively participating in the USF proceedings and a number of other Commission proceedings for several years. All parties were represented by experienced, competent counsel. All parties were given the

1 opportunity to participate in a prehearing conference, and to enter into settlement
2 discussions on the proposed Joint Stipulation. Many of the parties to this USF
3 proceeding are signatories to prior stipulations. Therefore, the Joint Stipulation
4 represents a product of serious bargaining among capable, knowledgeable parties.

5 **Q. Does the Joint Stipulation benefit consumers and the public interest?**

6 A. Yes, it does. The Joint Stipulation ensures adequate funding for the low-income
7 customer assistance programs and the consumer education programs administered by
8 Development. Moreover, the Joint Stipulation benefits consumers and the public interest
9 because the USF rider rates represent the minimal rates necessary to collect the EDUs'
10 USF rider revenue requirements.

11 **Q. Does the Joint Stipulation violate any important regulatory principles and
12 practices?**

13 A. No. The USF rider revenue requirement and rider rate were determined in accordance
14 with the NOI methodology approved by Opinion and Order issued September 11, 2019.

15 **Q. Should the Commission approve the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation?**

16 A. Yes.

17 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

18 A. Yes.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing *Testimony in Support of Joint Stipulation* has been served upon the following parties by first class mail, postage prepaid, and/or electronic mail this 3rd day December 2019.



Dane Stinson

Steven T. Nourse
Christen M. Blend
AEP Service Corporation
1 Riverside Plaza
Columbus, Ohio 43215
stnouse@aep.com
cmbblend@aep.com

Elizabeth H. Watts
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.
155 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Elizabeth.Watts@duke-energy.com

Randal V. Griffen
Judi L. Sobecki
Michael Schuler
The Dayton Power & Light Company
MacGregor Park
1065 Woodman Avenue
Dayton, Ohio 45432
Randall.Griffen@dplinc.com
Judi.Sobecki@dplinc.com
michael.schuler@aes.com

Amy Botschner-O'Brien
Ohio Consumers' Counsel
65 East State Street, 7th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485
Amy.botschner.obrien@occ.ohio.gov

Matthew Pritchard
McNees, Wallace & Nurick
Fifth Third Center
21 East State Street, Suite 910
Columbus, Ohio 43215
mpritichard@mwncmh.com

14489129v1

John H. Jones
Section Chief, Public Utilities Section
Thomas W. McNamee
Assistant Attorney General
30 East Broad Street, 16th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
John.jones@ohioattorneygeneral.gov
Thomas.McNamee@ohioattorneygeneral.gov

Emily V. Danford
Christine E. Watchorn
Robert M. Endris
FirstEnergy Service Company
76 South Main Street
Akron, OH 44308
Edanford@firstenergycorp.com
cwatchorn@firstenergycorp.com
rendris@firstenergycorp.com

Sara M. Benoit
Ulmer & Berne LLP
65 East State Street, Suite 1100
Columbus, Ohio 43215
sbenoit@ulmer.com

Colleen L. Mooney
Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy
PO Box 1793
231 West Lima Street
Findlay, Ohio 45839-1793
cmooney@ohiopartners.org

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Summary: Testimony of Megan Meadows in Support of Joint Stipulation electronically filed by
Teresa Orahod on behalf of Dane Stinson