

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of
Verde Energy USA Ohio, LLC as a
Competitive Retail Natural Gas
Supplier

CASE NO.: 13-2164-GA-CRS

**MOTION TO EXTEND VERDE ENERGY USA OHIO, LLC'S CERTIFICATE
AS A COMPETITIVE RETAIL NATURAL GAS SUPPLIER**

Verde Energy USA Ohio, LLC ("Verde Energy") hereby moves the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (the "Commission") for an extension of its certificate to provide competitive retail natural gas service in Ohio, number 13-334G(3) (the "CRNGS Certificate"), pending a resolution by the Commission of its investigation in case number 19-0958-GE-COI.

Since April 16, 2019, Verde Energy has been involved in a proceeding concerning alleged violations of the Commission's rules. PUCO Case No. 19-0958-GE-COI. Verde Energy and the Staff of the Commission's Service Monitoring and Enforcement Division ("Staff") agreed to settle the case, and entered the Joint Stipulation and Recommendation (the "Joint Stipulation") on September 6, 2019. The Ohio Consumers' Counsel ("OCC") opposes the Joint Stipulation, and the Commission held a two-day hearing on October 16 and 17, 2019, to determine whether the Joint Stipulation meets the established test for approval. The resolution of that case remains pending as of the date of this motion. Verde Energy has voluntarily stayed

all marketing and enrollment activities in Ohio, but continues to provide CRNGS service to existing Ohio customers.

Meanwhile, in case number 13-2164-GA-CRS, Verde Energy filed a renewal application for its CRNGS Certificate, as required by Ohio Administrative Code section 4901:1-27-09. Staff responded with a one-page motion recommending that the Commission “suspend Verde’s application to renew its CRNGS Certificate until the Commission issues a final Opinion and Order” in the other proceeding. (Docket Entry, Nov. 22, 2019). Verde Energy did not and does not oppose Staff’s motion.

The OCC then filed a motion to intervene, together with an 11-page brief arguing that the Commission should deny Verde Energy’s renewal application. OCC’s motions will be addressed in a separate opposition brief filed concurrently with this motion.

Attorney Examiner Fullin granted Staff’s motion by journal entry on December 4, 2019, suspending Verde Energy’s renewal application until further ordered by the Commission.

Because Verde Energy continues to serve existing customers (though not solicit new ones) while the Commission considers whether to approve the Joint Stipulation in Case No. 19-0958-GE-COI, the Commission should extend Verde Energy’s CRNGS certificate until the suspension of the renewal application is lifted. This will permit Verde Energy to continue to serve its existing retail natural gas customers in Ohio pending the resolution of the Commission’s investigation in case number 19-0958-GE-COI.

Dated: December 6, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

/s David F. Proaño

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true copy of the foregoing document was served by e-mail upon the persons listed below this 6th day of December, 2019.

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Summary: Motion to Extend Certificate electronically filed by Mr. David F. Proano on behalf of Verde Energy USA Ohio, LLC