

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Review of Ohio)
Adm.Code Chapter 4901-1 Rules Regard-) Case No. 18-275-AU-ORD
ing Practice and Procedure Before the Com-)
mission.)

In the Matter of the Review of Ohio)
Adm.Code Chapter 4901:1-1 Rules Regard-) Case No. 18-276-AU-ORD
ing Utility Tariffs and Underground Utility)
Protection Service Registration.)

In the Matter of the Review of Ohio)
Adm.Code Chapter 4901-3 Rules Regard-) Case No. 18-277-AU-ORD
ing Open Commission Meetings.)

In the Matter of the Review of Ohio)
Adm.Code Chapter 4901-9 Rules Regard-) Case No. 18-278-AU-ORD
ing Commission Complaint Proceedings.)

**JOINT MOTION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.,
THE EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY D/B/A DOMINION ENERGY OHIO,
AND DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC.,
AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR FILING REPLY COMMENTS
AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING**

Pursuant to Ohio Admin. Code 4901-1-12(A) and (C), Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio, and Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (collectively "Gas Companies") file this Joint Motion to Extend in the above referenced case. For the reasons more fully discussed in the attached Memorandum in Support, Gas Companies request an extension of the reply comment deadline contained in the January 2, 2020 Entry in this docket.

The Gas Companies also request an expedited ruling on this Joint Motion to Extend. The Gas Companies contacted counsel for the entities that filed initial comments and none of them object to expedited treatment of the Joint Motion to Extend.

Respectfully submitted by,

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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

On December 4, 2019, the Commission issued an Entry in this docket setting deadlines for comments on proposed changes to Chapters 4901-1, 4901:1-1, 4901-3, and 4901-9 of the Ohio Administrative Code. Pursuant to a January 2, 2020 Entry in these dockets, the Commission granted a request to extend the comment deadlines to January 13, 2020 for initial comments and January 27, 2020 for reply comments. Several sets of initial comments were filed in the dockets related to the various rules. The Gas Companies request a two-week extension of time to file reply comments. Thus, if granted, the new deadline for reply comments from all commenters would be February 10, 2020.

The Gas Companies request the extension for reply comments in order to provide additional time to analyze the comments and proposed rule changes by the various commenters. The proposed rule changes could, if adopted, significantly impact the way cases proceed at the Commission as well as how the Commission conducts other matters. The additional time would allow all commenters interested in filing reply comments an opportunity to more fully analyze the impacts of the proposals, as well as file more comprehensive and insightful reply comments.

The Gas Companies are also optimistic that the additional time will allow sufficient time for commenters to attempt to coordinate the filing of joint reply comments, such as joint reply comments from the Gas Companies. Joint reply comments from various commenters could provide the Commission the efficiency of a single set comments from commonly situated commenters. However, without this additional time, the Gas Companies or other groups will likely not have sufficient time to coordinate the drafting and filing of joint reply comments.

Finally, the Gas Companies request an expedited ruling on this Joint Motion to Extend. With the established deadlines pending, an expedited ruling would help commenters make timely decisions about how to most efficiently and effectively provide reply comments to the Commission on these important rules. An expedited ruling will also increase the chances for filing joint comments by the various commenters. Counsel for Columbia Gas of Ohio reached out *via* e-mail to all the entities that filed initial comments and none of them object to expedited treatment of this Joint Motion to Extend.

The Gas Companies respectfully request the Commission grant, with expedited treatment, the Joint Motion to Extend for the reasons explained herein.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on the parties referenced on the service list of the docket card who have electronically subscribed to the case. In addition, the undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing document is also being served via electronic mail on the 15th day of January, 2020, upon the parties listed below.

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This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

1/15/2020 1:29:59 PM

in

Case No(s). 18-0275-AU-ORD, 18-0276-AU-ORD, 18-0277-AU-ORD, 18-0278-AU-ORD

Summary: Motion /Joint Motion and Memorandum in Support to Extend the Deadline for Filing Reply Comments and Request for Expedited Ruling electronically filed by Cheryl A MacDonald on behalf of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. and East Ohio Gas Company D/B/A Dominion Energy Ohio and Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.