



# DAVE YOST

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July 23, 2020

The Honorable Anna Sanyal  
Administrative Law Judge  
Ohio Power Siting Board  
180 East Broad Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Re: Motion for Waiver,  
20-1288-EL-BGN

Dear Honorable Anna Sanyal:

On July 16, 2020, Hecate Energy Highland 4 LLC (Hecate or Applicant), filed a motion for waiver of Ohio Administrative Code 4906-3-03(B) conditioned on Hecate replacing the public information meeting (PIM) with a three-step public information plan, as described in its memorandum. In its motion, Applicant avers that its request is for good cause given the current state of emergency.

Staff initially notes that on March 9, 2020, the Governor of Ohio signed Executive Order 2020-01D, declaring a state of emergency in Ohio to protect the well-being of Ohioans from the dangerous effects of the virus. Staff recognizes that the unique nature of the SAR-COV-2 and the radically changed environment resulting from the response warrant an acknowledgment of the importance of social distancing. Although additional executive orders have been issued, there is still currently a ban on mass gatherings of ten or more people in the state, staying at home is still strongly recommended, and social distancing is still in effect for the foreseeable future.

Given, the supplemental steps proposed by Hecate, the Governor's stay at home recommendation, and the continued social distancing requirement, Staff does not object to the requested waiver.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Robert Eubanks*

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**Robert Eubanks**

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**On behalf of the Staff of the Ohio  
Power Siting Board**

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Summary: Correspondence Letter regarding Motion for Waiver electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly M Naeder on behalf of OPSB