# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of the Dayton	)	
Power and Light Company for Administration	)	
of the Significantly Excessive Earnings Test	)	Case No. 19-1121-EL-UNC
Under R.C. 4928.143(F) and Ohio Adm. Code	)	
4901:1-35-10 for 2018.	)	

## 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 detailed in the attached Memorandum in Support, OMAEG has a real and substantial interest in this proceeding that may be adversely affected by the outcome herein, and which cannot be adequately represented by any other party. 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 m a full party of record in these proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kimberly W. Bojko

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#### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

On May 15, 2019, Dayton Power & Light Company (DP&L) filed an Application seeking a finding from the Commission that DP&L did not have significantly excessive earnings under R.C. 4928.143(F) for calendar year 2018. On September 11, 2020, the Commission issued an Entry consolidating this case with Case No. 20-1041-EL-UNC, in which DP&L filed an application regarding the significantly excessive earnings test (SEET) with respect to DP&L's earnings during calendar year 2019. The Commission directed all interested parties to file motions to intervene in the consolidated case by October 16, 2020. OMAEG previously intervened in the 2019 SEET review case, and the Commission granted OMAEG's motion as to that case. In order to completely participate in administration of SEET review for calendar years 2018 and 2019, and to adequately protect its interest in the consolidated case, OMAEG respectfully moves for intervention in the above-captioned proceeding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Entry at ¶ 8 (Sept. 11, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In the Matter of the Application of the Dayton Power and Light Company for Administration of the Significantly Excessive Earnings Test Under R.C. 4928.143(F) and Ohio Adm. Code 4901:1-35-10 for 2019, Case No. 20-1041, OMAEG Motion to Intervene (July 2, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Entry at ¶ 13 (Sept. 11, 2020).

DP&L avers that administration of the SEET with respect to its revenues for 2018 should not warrant a refund.<sup>5</sup> But in arriving at this conclusion, DP&L excluded from its SEET calculation charges collected by DP&L under its distribution modernization rider (DMR)<sup>6</sup> until it was invalidated by the Commission following a decision by the Supreme Court of Ohio that held that R.C. 4928.143 does not authorize DMRs.<sup>7</sup> When the Court determined that FirstEnergy's DMR was unlawful, the Court did not immediately mandate the return of previously-collected DMR funds.<sup>8</sup> Instead, the Court explicitly noted that customers would not be prejudiced by the lack of refunds as the SEET proceedings would provide the proper venue for customers to address the refund issue and potentially receive refunds if the ESP that included the unlawful DMR resulted in significantly excessive earnings.<sup>9</sup>

This proceeding will determine whether or not DP&L has excessively earned and whether customers will receive refunds for any excessive earnings that DP&L collected. As explained in more detail below, given the impact this case could have on consumers, especially manufacturing customers, many of whom are members of OMAEG, OMAEG has a real and substantial interest in the outcome of this proceeding.

R.C. 4903.221 and Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-11 establish the standard for intervention in the above-captioned proceedings. R.C. 4903.221 provides, in part, that any person "who may be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Application at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Id.; Direct Testimony of Craig A. Forestal, at 4-5 (May 15, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> In re Application of Ohio Edison, 157 Ohio St.3d 73, 2019-Ohio-2401, ¶ 56; In the Matter of the Application of the Dayton Power & Light Company to Establish a Standard Service Offer in the Form of an Electric Security Plan, Case Nos. 16-395-EL-SSO et al., Supplemental. Opinion and Order at ¶110 (Nov. 21, 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *In re Application of Ohio Edison*, 157 Ohio St.3d 73, 2019-Ohio-2401, ¶¶ 32-34 ("Further, utility customers will not be prejudiced by the failure to immediately address the issue. R.C. 4928.143(F) expressly provides for customer refunds if the ESP resulted in significantly excessive earnings, but that determination can be made only in a SEET proceeding.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Id.

adversely affected" by a Commission proceeding is entitled to seek intervention in that proceeding. R.C. 4903.221(B) 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 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 others 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. Here, OMAEG has a substantial interest in ensuring that DP&L is not significantly excessively earning and charging customers excessive amounts. As consumers of significant amounts of energy in DP&L's service territory, OMAEG has been involved in numerous DP&L cases previously. Moreover, OMAEG has also participated in prior proceedings before the Commission involving DP&L's administration of the SEET review.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See, e.g., In the Matter of the Application of The Dayton Power and Light Company for Extension of Distribution Modernization Rider, Case No. 19-0162-EL-RDR; In the Matter of the Application of The Dayton Power and Light Company for Approval of Its Electric Security Plan, Case Nos. 16-0395-EL-SSO, et al.; In the Matter of the Application of The Dayton Power and Light Company for an Increase in its Electric Distribution Rates, Case Nos. 15-1830-EL-AIR, et al; In the Matter of the Application of The Dayton Power and Light Company for Approval of its Electric Security Plan, Case Nos. 12-0426-EL-SSO, et al.; In the Matter of the Application of The Dayton Power and Light Company for Extension of Distribution Modernization Rider, Case No. 19-0162-EL-RDR; In the Matter of the Application of The Dayton Power and Light Company for Approval of Its Electric Security Plan, Case Nos. 08-1094-EL-SSO, et al.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See, e.g., In the Matter of the Application The Dayton Power and Light Company's Application for a Finding that Its Current Electric Security Plan Passes the Significantly Excessive Earnings Test and More Favorable in the Aggregate Test in R.C. 4928.143(E), Case No. 20-680-EL-UNC, OMAEG's Motion to Intervene (May 13, 2020).

For these reasons, OMAEG has a direct, real, and substantial interest in the issues raised

in this proceeding and is so situated that the disposition of this proceeding 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 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, Ohio law authorizes OMAEG to intervene in this proceeding with the full powers and

rights granted by the Commission to intervening parties. OMAEG respectfully requests that the

Commission grant this motion for leave to intervene and makes OMAEG a full party of record.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kimberly W. Bojko\_

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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 also is being served via electronic mail on September 30, 2020 upon the parties listed below.

/s/ Kimberly W. Bojko Kimberly W. Bojko

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