

**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)	Case No. 20-1103-EL-USF
the Universal Service Fund Riders of)	
Jurisdictional Ohio Electric Distribution)	
Utilities.)	

**JOINT MOTION FOR A MODIFIED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE,
REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING
AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT**

Joint Movants,¹ pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-12, respectfully request the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (“PUCO”) to modify the procedural schedule in the Application phase of this proceeding to permit a “paper hearing.” Joint Movants make this request to allow for the PUCO’s efficient consideration of an unopposed Stipulation and Recommendation (“Stipulation”) in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order 2020-01D declaring a state of emergency in Ohio in response to COVID-19 and the passage of Am. Sub. H.B. 197. Joint Movants also request that an expedited ruling be issued pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-12(C). None of the parties to this proceeding objects to the modified procedural schedule or the expedited ruling.

Pursuant to R.C. 4928.52, et seq., Development is the administrator of the universal service fund and the low-income customer assistance programs for electric distribution customers. Development filed a Notice of Intent to File an Application for Adjustments to Universal Service Fund Riders on May 29, 2020. The entry also joined the state's jurisdictional

¹ Joint Movants include all parties to this proceeding: Ohio Development Services Agency (“Development”); Ohio Power Company (“Ohio Power”); The Dayton Power and Light Company (“DP&L”); Duke Energy Ohio (“Duke”); The Kroger Co. (“Kroger”); the Office of the Ohio Consumers’ Counsel (“OCC”); Industrial Energy Users-Ohio (“IEU-Ohio”); Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy (“OPAE”); Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (“Staff”), Ohio Energy Group (“OEG”), and The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, The Toledo Edison Company, and Ohio Edison Company (collectively, the “FirstEnergy Companies”).

electric distribution utilities as indispensable parties.² Unopposed motions to intervene were filed by OCC, IEU-Ohio, OPAE, OEG and Kroger.

On October 30, 2020, Development filed in this proceeding an Application and supporting direct testimony of Megan Meadows. On November 19, 2020, Development filed an Amended Application and the supporting supplemental testimony of Megan Meadows. Subsequently, a majority of the parties entered into a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation (“Stipulation”), which was filed with the PUCO on November 24, 2020, along with the testimony of Megan Meadows in support of the Stipulation. The signatory parties include Development, Ohio Power, Duke, DP&L, OPAE, and IEU-Ohio (the “Signatory Parties”). The remaining parties neither support nor oppose the Stipulation and include the PUCO Staff, OCC, the FirstEnergy Companies, OEG and Kroger (the “Non-Opposing Parties”).

In consideration of the Governor’s Executive Order 2020-01D declaring a state of emergency in Ohio in response to COVID-19 and the passage of Am. Sub. H.B. 197, the Signatory Parties and the Non-Opposing Parties jointly move that the Application portion of this proceeding be processed through a “paper hearing”³ as opposed to an in-person hearing. Specifically, Joint Movants propose that the following be admitted into the record and serve as the basis of the PUCO’s order in this Application phase of the proceeding: (1) the Stipulation filed November 24, 2020, (2) Megan Meadows’ testimony in support of the Stipulation filed November 24, 2020, (3) the Application filed October 30, 2020, (4) Megan Meadow’s direct testimony filed October 30, 2020, (5) the Amended Application filed November 19, 2020, and (6) Megan Meadows’ supplemental testimony filed November 19, 2020. Joint Movants waive cross

² The EDUs are Duke, DP&L, Ohio Power, and the FirstEnergy Companies.

³ Joint Movants do not object to a hearing using remote access technology for the purpose of the Attorney Examiner admitting the evidence into the record, if the Attorney Examiner deems it necessary.

examination of Development witness Meadows, and waive objections to the admissibility of Ms. Meadows' direct and supplemental testimony, the Application and Amended Application, the Stipulation and Meadow's testimony in support of the Stipulation. Joint Movants also waive written and oral motions to strike all testimony, the Application and Amended Application, and the Stipulation.

Joint Movants believe that their proposal will provide due process for all of the parties during the state of emergency in Ohio, while allowing the unopposed Application portion of this case to proceed without the need for an in-person hearing. Further, processing the Application phase of this proceeding based upon the documents identified and already filed in the docket will allow the PUCO to enter its order in time so that new USF rider rates become effective January 1, 2021.

Joint Movants also request that an expedited ruling be issued pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-12(C). None of the parties objects to modifying the procedural schedule or an expedited ruling.

Respectfully submitted,

Ohio Development Services Agency

By: /s/ Dane Stinson

Industrial Energy Users – Ohio

By: /s/ Matthew Pritchard
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy

By: /s/ David C. Rinebolt
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]
(Practice temporarily authorized pending admission under Gov. Bar R. 1, Sec 19)

The Dayton Power & Light Company

By: /s/ Michael J. Schuler
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

Ohio Power Company

By: /s/ Steven T. Nourse
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

By: /s/ Rocco O. D'Ascenzo
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

By: /s/ Amy Botschner-O'Brien
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

Staff, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

By: /s/ Steven Beeler
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

Ohio Energy Group

By: /s/ Michael L. Kurtz
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

The Kroger Co.

By: /s/ Kimberly W. Bojko
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

**Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland
Electric Illuminating Company, and The
Toledo Edison Company**

By: /s/ Christine E. Watchorn
[per e-mail authorization (DS)]

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing *Motion for a Modified Procedural Schedule and Request for Expedited Ruling* has been served upon the following parties by electronic mail this 30th day of November 2020.



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Summary: Motion to Change Procedural Schedule electronically filed by Dane Stinson on behalf of Ohio Development Services Agency