

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the 2020 Review of the	:	
Delivery Capital Recovery Rider of	:	Case No. 20-1629-EL-RDR
Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland	:	
Electric Illuminating Company, and	:	
The Toledo Edison Company.	:	

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**MOTION FOR FURTHER EXTENSION OF TIME  
TO FILE FINAL AUDIT REPORT WITH COMMISSION,  
AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING**

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The Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Staff) moves for a further extension of the deadline for the filing of the Final Audit Report established in this case. Specifically, Staff requests that the deadline for the Final Audit Report to be filed be extended from July 6, 2021 to August 3, 2021.

Staff further requests that the Commission grant its motion on an expedited basis pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-12(C). Counsel for Staff has endeavored to contact all parties for approval of expedited consideration. Although responses have not been received from all parties, Staff certifies both that no party that has responded has any objection to the issuance of an immediate ruling or to the requested extension of the deadlines identified above.

The grounds for this motion are set forth in the accompanying memorandum in support.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney General

**John H. Jones** (0051913)  
Section Chief

*/s/ Werner L. Margard III*

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## MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

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This case involves the annual audit of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company (collectively, FirstEnergy) for compliance with their approved Delivery Capital Recovery Rider (Rider DCR). By Entry dated December 16, 2020, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) selected Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. (Blue Ridge or Auditor) to conduct the audit services necessary to assist the Commission with the 2020 annual audit of FirstEnergy's Rider DCR costs. That Entry incorporated the terms and the conditions of the Request for Proposal (RFP) No. RA20-CA-3 into the contract between FirstEnergy and Blue Ridge, and established May 5, 2021 as the deadline for a Draft Audit Report to be presented to Staff, and May 17, 2021 as the deadline for the Final Audit Report to be filed with the Commission, pursuant to provision "IV. Timeline" in the RFP at 4.

On March 8, 2021, Staff filed a letter in this docket requesting that the Commission expand the scope of the audit. Specifically, Staff noted the disclosure made in the 10K filed by FirstEnergy Corp. on February 18, 2021 concerning "certain transactions . . . that were either improperly classified, misallocated . . . or lacked supporting documentation". Staff requested that the Commission direct Blue Ridge to review the disclosed transactions to determine whether funds collected from ratepayers were used to pay the vendors and, if so, whether the funds associated with those

payments should be returned to ratepayers in this or an alternative proceeding. By Entry of March 10, 2021, the Commission directed Blue Ridge to expand the scope of the audit to include payments made to a number of vendors, recently disclosed by FirstEnergy Corp. The Entry adopted the terms and conditions of the RFP (paragraph 10). The Commission also recognized that the expansion of the audit may require additional time and resources. Blue Ridge accepted the Commission's expansion of the audit.

Due to the expansion of the audit, Blue Ridge advised Staff that it needed additional time to complete its review. Staff moved for an extension of the filing deadlines on April 30, 2021. That motion was granted by an Entry of May 3, 2021, granting Blue Ridge until June 21, 2021 to present its Draft Audit Report to Staff, and until July 6, 2021 to file its Final Audit Report.

At the time of that motion, Staff indicated that additional requests for extension, while not anticipated, may be necessary. Additional time is required for completion of the final report, and a further extension is necessary.

Ohio Adm. Code 4901-1-12(C) allows requests that the Commission consider a motion on an expedited basis. Inasmuch as the current deadline for the Final Audit Report is today, Staff respectfully requests and expedited ruling that the deadline be extended as requested in this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

**David Yost** (0056290)  
Attorney General

**John H. Jones** (0051913)  
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*/s/Werner L. Margard III*

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing **Motion for Extension of Time to Submit File Final Audit Report with Commission, and Request for Expedited Ruling, and Memorandum in Support** was served by regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, electronic mail, or hand-delivered, upon the following parties of record, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.

/s/ Werner L. Margard III

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**Case No(s). 20-1629-EL-RDR**

Summary: Motion for Further Extension of Time to File Final Audit Report with Commission, and Request for Expedited Ruling electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly M Naeder on behalf of PUCO