## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of :

Gasearch, LLC. for Certification to : Case No. 15-0866-GA-CRS

Provide Competitive Retail Natural Gas

Service in Ohio.

:

## JOINT MOTION TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Gasearch LLC ("Gasearch") and the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Staff") respectfully request that the procedural schedule in this matter be suspended. Hearing is presently scheduled to begin January 25, 2022. The parties further request that this motion be granted expeditiously pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-12(C), and submit that good cause exists for granting this motion without delay.

On November 3, 2021, the Commission issued a finding and order authorizing Dominion to terminate Gasearch's participation in Dominion's Energy Choice program. The Commission further found that "Gasearch should be afforded an opportunity to request a hearing as to whether its certificate, in whole or in part, should be rescinded." On November 12, 2021, Gasearch requested a hearing. On December 17, 2021, the Attorney Examiner issued an entry establishing a procedural schedule. Pursuant to that schedule, Gasearch's direct testimony is due today, January 11, 2022, with Staff's direct testimony due January 18, 2022 and the evidentiary hearing scheduled to begin January 25, 2022.

The parties make this request pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-13(A) to allow them to engage in negotiations to fully resolve this case by agreement. A stipulation would permit the Commission to rule on the case expeditiously without the need for costly and time-consuming litigation. To permit adequate time to conduct those negotiations, the parties request that the procedural schedule be suspended for a period of 30 days.

The parties also request that the Commission consider and grant this motion on an expedited basis. Staff has contacted counsel for The East Ohio Gas Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio ("Dominion"), seeking its assent to expedited treatment, and Dominion has agreed. Consequently, this motion may be granted expeditiously pursuant to O.A.C. 4901-1-12(C).

Respectfully submitted,

Black, McCuskey

**Dave Yost** Ohio Attorney General

/s/ Randolph L. Snow (per email authorization)

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Summary: Motion Joint Motion to Suspend Procedural Schedule The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio electronically filed by Mrs. Kimberly M. Naeder on behalf of PUCO