Commissioners



Mike DeWine, Governor Jenifer French, Chair M. Beth Trombold Lawrence K. Friedeman Dennis P. Deters Daniel R. Conway

August 19, 2022

Docketing Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

RE: In the Matter of the Application of Ambit Northeast, LLC for Certification as a Competitive Retail Electric and Natural Gas Service Provider in Ohio, Case Nos. 15-1096-EL-CRS and 15-1097-GA-CRS.

Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find a revised Staff Review and Recommendation in the Matter of the Application of Ambit Northeast, LLC for Certification as a Competitive Retail Electric and Natural Gas Service Provider in Ohio, Case Nos. 15-1096-EL-CRS and 15-1097-GA-CRS.

Sincerely,

Meline M Scarlan

Melissa Scarberry Utility Specialist II Service Monitoring and Enforcement Department Melissa.Scarberry@puco.ohio.gov

Staff Review and Recommendation for Ambit Northeast, LLC Case Nos. 15-1096-EL-CRS AND 15-1097-GA-CRS

On June 9, 2021, Staff sent a Notice of Probable Non-Compliance (PNC) to Ambit Northeast, LLC (Ambit) regarding the enrollment of customers without consent. On June 14, 2021, Ambit filed applications with the Commission seeking to renew its certifications as a competitive retail electric service (CRES) provider and a competitive retail natural gas service (CRNGS) provider. These applications were suspended on July 8, 2021, in order to give the Commission and Staff additional time to consider the applications.

On February 16, 2022, a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation was filed in Case No. 22-0128-EL-UNC to resolve the issues identified in the PNC notice. As part of the PNC and Stipulation, Ambit agreed to:

- provide incremental training to its agents and provide that training to Staff for review
- audit enrollments for the time period specified in the Stipulation and return any customers back to the utility where Ambit was not able to verify their intent to enroll
- review 25% of all enrollments on a monthly basis for 18 months from the signing of the Stipulation
- implement a process to start collecting and retaining IP addresses within six months of the signing of the Stipulation
- drop and re-rate to the utility's default rate any customer whose enrollment is questionable, and Ambit is not able to confirm the customer's intent to enroll
- pay a forfeiture of \$20,000 to the State of Ohio.

As of this date, Staff has verified that all the terms of the stipulation have been met. Based on Staff's evaluation of Ambit, the Stipulation, and review of the applications and accompanying exhibits, Staff believes the renewal applications are in compliance with Ohio Administrative Code and therefore, Staff recommends that these applications be approved.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 22-0128-EL-UNC, 15-1096-EL-CRS, 15-1097-GA-CRS

Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Ms. Melissa M. Scarberry on behalf of PUCO Staff