

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF  
DEVELOPMENT FOR AN ORDER  
APPROVING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE  
UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND RIDERS OF  
JURISDICTIONAL OHIO ELECTRIC  
DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES.

CASE NO. 22-556-EL-USF

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on November 1, 2022

{¶ 1} R.C. 4928.52(B) provides that if, after consultation with the Public Benefits Advisory Board, the director of the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD)<sup>1</sup> determines that revenues in the Universal Service Fund (USF) and revenues from federal or other sources of funding for those programs will be insufficient to cover the administrative costs of the low-income customer assistance programs and the consumer education program and provide adequate funding for those programs, ODOD shall file a petition with the Commission for an increase in the USF riders. The Commission, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, may adjust the USF riders by the minimum amount necessary to provide additional revenues.

{¶ 2} On May 27, 2022, ODOD filed a notice of intent (NOI) to file an application to adjust the USF riders of all Ohio jurisdictional electric distribution utilities, namely, AES Ohio, formerly known as the Dayton Power & Light Company, Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., Ohio Edison Company, Ohio Power Company, and Toledo Edison Company, in accordance with R.C. 4928.52. The function of the NOI phase of this proceeding is to provide interested stakeholders with an opportunity to raise and pursue objections to the methodology ODOD intends to use to develop the USF rider revenue requirement and rate design. *In re Ohio Development Services Agency*, Case No. 21-659-EL-USF, Opinion and Order (Dec. 15, 2021).

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<sup>1</sup> The Ohio Department of Development or ODOD was also formerly known as the Ohio Development Services Agency.

{¶ 3} On October 5, 2022, the Commission approved, pursuant to a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation filed August 5, 2022, the proposed USF rider revenue requirement methodology and the USF rider rate design methodology to be followed by ODOD for the 2023 USF collection period. *In re Ohio Department of Development*, Case No. 22-556-EL-USF, Opinion and Order (Oct. 5, 2022).

{¶ 4} On October 31, 2022, ODOD filed its USF application and supporting testimony to adjust the USF riders of all Ohio jurisdictional electric utilities, in accordance with R.C. 4928.52. In its application, ODOD requests that each of the USF riders be adjusted to more accurately reflect the current operating costs of the Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus, the Electric Partnership Program, the consumer education program, and associated administrative costs. ODOD requests that the proposed USF riders for the electric utilities be effective January 1, 2023, on a bills-rendered basis. Based on ODOD's analysis, on an aggregated basis, the total annual revenues that will be generated by the current USF riders will be \$143,395,993 less than the annual revenues required to meet the objectives identified in R.C. 4928.52(A) for the 2023 collection period.

{¶ 5} Accordingly, to assist the Commission with its consideration of ODOD's USF adjustment application, the attorney examiner finds a hearing will commence on November 30, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 E. Broad Street, Hearing Room C, 11th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Everyone must register at the lobby desk and then proceed to the 11th floor to participate in the hearing. Any accommodations necessary to ensure availability of social distancing and plexiglass dividers should be made in advance of the hearing. As pandemic restrictions are evolving, additional instructions regarding further safety requirements or accommodations for the hearing room will either be posted on the Commission website or communicated to counsel for the parties via email.

{¶ 6} It is, therefore,

{¶ 7} ORDERED, That the procedural schedule set forth in Paragraph 5 be adopted. It is, further,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served on all parties and interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Greta See

By: Greta See  
Attorney Examiner

GAP/hac

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
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**in**

**Case No(s). 22-0556-EL-USF**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry ordering that a hearing will commence on November 30, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 E. Broad Street, Hearing Room C, 11th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215 electronically filed by Heather A. Chilcote on behalf of Greta See, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission