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January 27, 2023

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Tanowa Troupe
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

**Re: Case No. 00-2317-EL-GAG
Initial Comments to NOPEC's September 28, 2022 Show Cause Filing on Behalf of
Interested NOPEC Member Communities in Support of NOPEC**

Dear Ms. Troupe:

By Entry issued September 7, 2022, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ordered Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council ("NOPEC") to "show cause" why its certificate to provide governmental aggregation services should not be suspended ("September 7th Entry"). NOPEC filed its "show cause" response on September 28, 2022. By subsequent entries, the attorney examiners extended the deadline for interested parties to file initial comments regarding NOPEC's show cause filing to January 27, 2023.

For the convenience of the following interested parties, we are filing the attached Initial Comments on behalf of these four (4) interested parties in support of NOPEC and in support of NOPEC's certification as a governmental aggregator in the above-referenced docket:

1. Ellsworth Township
2. Jackson Township
3. Rootstown Township
4. Village of Rock Creek

These Initial Comments are being filed pursuant to the above-referenced entries, and should be included on the Docket Card as formal initial comments filed by interested parties pursuant to the attorney examiners' September 7th Entry and subsequent entries in this proceeding, and not in the Public Comment section.

Sincerely,

Devin D. Parram

Attachments

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) PUCO Case No. 00-2317-EL-GAG

Dear PUCO Commissioners and Staff:

On behalf of Ellsworth Township in Mahoning County Ohio, we urge the PUCO to keep NOPEC's certification to aggregate electricity. We applaud NOPEC for making the difficult, but correct, decision to switch all customers temporarily to their default utility because that decision saved my residents' money. I will always fight for my residents and in this decision, NOPEC was as well.


We strongly support NOPEC's continued certification by the PUCO. We firmly oppose any suspension of NOPEC's operating certificate. NOPEC made the right decision to return residents in our community to the lower-priced electric service offered by the utility. We understand that in recent electricity auctions that for-profit company rates have also risen consistent with NOPEC's rates and that with current events, that electrical rates may be unpredictable for a short while. However, long term, NOPEC's value to Ellsworth Township is clear because NOPEC has saved our residents significant amounts through lower electricity rates. And, the fact that NOPEC did the right thing – something that no for-profit utility would have decided – shows that non-profit electrical aggregation works for Ohio and for Ellsworth Township.

Importantly, NOPEC was chosen by our community and over 200 other local governments in Ohio, to provide electric aggregation service. As a non-profit regional council of governments, NOPEC has a 20+ year track record of providing excellent service to its member communities. NOPEC made the right decision to return its customers to the utility's lower priced electric service in August. It did the right thing for our community and residents. We urge the PUCO to deny NOPEC's competitor's challenge to their right to aggregate electricity – we need NOPEC as the non-profit, consumer-focused, electrical aggregator.

The PUCO should not interfere with our voters' decision to aggregate and participate in the numerous benefits offered by NOPEC. We urge you to allow NOPEC to continue operating as a governmental electricity aggregator.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our community's comments in this case.

Very truly yours,

DocuSigned by:

E5CABBD9E9DC4EC...
William A Spellman

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) PUCO Case No. 00-2317-EL-GAG

Dear PUCO Commissioners and Staff:

On behalf of Jackson Township in Mahoning County Ohio, we urge the PUCO to keep NOPEC's certification to aggregate electricity. We applaud NOPEC for making the difficult, but correct, decision to switch all customers temporarily to their default utility because that decision saved my residents' money. I will always fight for my residents and in this decision, NOPEC was as well.

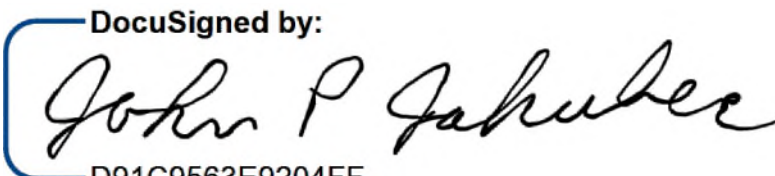
We strongly support NOPEC's continued certification by the PUCO. We firmly oppose any suspension of NOPEC's operating certificate. NOPEC made the right decision to return residents in our community to the lower-priced electric service offered by the utility. We understand that in recent electricity auctions that for-profit company rates have also risen consistent with NOPEC's rates and that with current events, that electrical rates may be unpredictable for a short while. However, long term, NOPEC's value to Jackson Township is clear because NOPEC has saved our residents significant amounts through lower electricity rates. And, the fact that NOPEC did the right thing – something that no for-profit utility would have decided – shows that non-profit electrical aggregation works for Ohio and for Jackson Township.

Importantly, NOPEC was chosen by our community and over 200 other local governments in Ohio, to provide electric aggregation service. As a non-profit regional council of governments, NOPEC has a 20+ year track record of providing excellent service to its member communities. NOPEC made the right decision to return its customers to the utility's lower priced electric service in August. It did the right thing for our community and residents. We urge the PUCO to deny NOPEC's competitor's challenge to their right to aggregate electricity – we need NOPEC as the non-profit, consumer-focused, electrical aggregator.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide our community's comments in this case.

Very truly yours,

DocuSigned by:

D91C9563E9204FF...
John Jakubec

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) PUCO Case No. 00-2317-EL-GAG

Dear PUCO Commissioners and Staff:

On behalf of Rootstown in Portage County Ohio, we urge the PUCO to keep NOPEC's certification to aggregate electricity. We applaud NOPEC for making the difficult, but correct, decision to switch all customers temporarily to their default utility because that decision saved my residents' money. I will always fight for my residents and in this decision, NOPEC was as well.

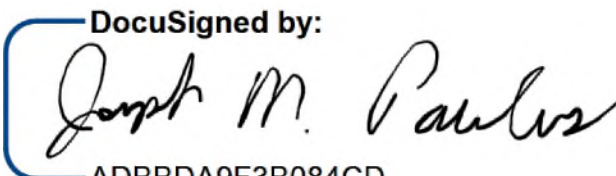
We strongly support NOPEC's continued certification by the PUCO. We firmly oppose any suspension of NOPEC's operating certificate. NOPEC made the right decision to return residents in our community to the lower-priced electric service offered by the utility. We understand that in recent electricity auctions that for-profit company rates have also risen consistent with NOPEC's rates and that with current events, that electrical rates may be unpredictable for a short while. However, long term, NOPEC's value to Rootstown is clear because NOPEC has saved our residents significant amounts through lower electricity rates. And, the fact that NOPEC did the right thing – something that no for-profit utility would have decided – shows that non-profit electrical aggregation works for Ohio and for Rootstown.

Importantly, NOPEC was chosen by our community and over 200 other local governments in Ohio, to provide electric aggregation service. As a non-profit regional council of governments, NOPEC has a 20+ year track record of providing excellent service to its member communities. NOPEC made the right decision to return its customers to the utility's lower priced electric service in August. It did the right thing for our community and residents. We urge the PUCO to deny NOPEC's competitor's challenge to their right to aggregate electricity – we need NOPEC as the non-profit, consumer-focused, electrical aggregator.

The PUCO should not interfere with our voters' decision to aggregate and participate in the numerous benefits offered by NOPEC. We urge you to allow NOPEC to continue operating as a governmental electricity aggregator.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our community's comments in this case.

Very truly yours,

DocuSigned by:

ADBBDA9F3B084CD...
Joe Paulus

Village of Rock Creek
3081 West Water Street • P.O. Box 92
Rock Creek, Ohio 44084
440-563-3992 • fax 440-563-9484

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) PUCO Case No. 00-2317-EL-GAG

Dear PUCO Commissioners and Staff:

On behalf of Rock Creek Village in Ashtabula County Ohio, we urge the PUCO to keep NOPEC's certification to aggregate electricity. We applaud NOPEC for making the difficult, but correct, decision to switch all customers temporarily to their default utility because that decision saved my residents' money. I will always fight for my residents and in this decision, NOPEC was as well.

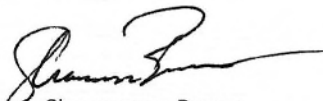
We strongly support NOPEC's continued certification by the PUCO. We firmly oppose any suspension of NOPEC's operating certificate. NOPEC made the right decision to return residents in our community to the lower-priced electric service offered by the utility. We understand that in recent electricity auctions that for-profit company rates have also risen consistent with NOPEC's rates and that with current events, that electrical rates may be unpredictable for a short while. However, long term, NOPEC's value to Rock Creek Village is clear because NOPEC has saved our resident significant amounts through lower electricity rates. And, the fact that NOPEC did the right thing – something that no for-profit utility would have decided – shows that non-profit electrical aggregation works for Ohio and for Rock Creek.

Importantly, NOPEC was chosen by our community and over 200 other local governments in Ohio, to provide electric aggregation service. As a non-profit regional council of governments, NOPEC has a 20+ year track record of providing excellent service to its member communities. NOPEC made the right decision to return its customers to the utility's lower priced electric service in August. It did the right thing for our community and residents. We urge the PUCO to deny NOPEC's competitor's challenge to their right to aggregate electricity – we need NOPEC as the non-profit, consumer-focused, electrical aggregator.

The PUCO should not interfere with our voters' decision to aggregate and participate in the numerous benefits offered by NOPEC. We urge you to allow NOPEC to continue operating as a governmental electricity aggregator.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our community's comments in this case.

Very truly yours,


Shawnasee Burns
Mayor

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

1/27/2023 5:05:23 PM

in

Case No(s). 00-2317-EL-GAG

Summary: Comments in Support of NOPEC electronically filed by Teresa Orahod
on behalf of Devin D. Parram