

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2007 DEC 13 PM 4: 1,2

December 13, 2007

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission Docketing Division 180 East Broad Street, 13th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

Re: Case No 07-723-EL-UNC and Case No 07-975-EL-UNC

Dear Docketing:

Attached, please find an original and 10 copies of the Stipulation and Recommendation in the above referenced matters for filing. Counsel for Duke Energy Ohio, Inc ("DE-Ohio") has spoken with Counsel for Industrial Energy Users of Ohio ("IEU-Ohio") and Counsel for Ohio Energy Group ("OEG") who have stated they do not oppose the Stipulation and Recommendation and agree that DE-Ohio can represent such on the record. Please file the same and return two time-stamped copies. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Colbert, Associate General Counsel

Rocco D'Ascenzo, Counsel

Duke Energy Ohio

2500 Atrium II, 139 East Fourth Street

P. O. Box 960

Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-0960

139 East Fourth Street, R. 25 At II

Rocco.D'Ascenzo@duke-energy.com

Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-0960

P.O. Box 960

Tel: 513-419-1852 Fax: 513-419-1846

Rocco O. D'Ascenzo

Counsel

Joint	Exhibit	
-------	---------	--

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Commission's Review)	
And Adjustment of the Fuel and Purchased		
Power and System Reliability Tracker)		Case No. 07-723-EL-UNC
Components of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., ar		
Related Matters)	
In the Matter of the Application of Duke)	
Energy Ohio, Inc. to Adjust and Set its)	Case No. 07-975-EL-UNC
2008 System Reliability Tracker.)	

STIPULATION AND RECOMMENDATION

Rule 4901-1-30, Ohio Administrative Code (O. A. C.) provides that any two or more parties to a proceeding may enter into a written stipulation covering the issues presented in such a proceeding. The purpose of this document is to set forth the understanding and agreement of the Parties¹ who have signed below (Parties) and to recommend that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) approve and adopt this Stipulation and Recommendation (Stipulation), which resolves all of the issues in these cases relative to the Fuel and Purchased Power (Rider FPP) tracker, and System Reliability Tracker (Rider SRT) of DE-Ohio's market-based standard service offer (MBSSO).

This Stipulation is supported by adequate data and information; represents a just and reasonable resolution of the issues raised in these proceedings; violates no regulatory principle or precedent; and is the product of lengthy, serious bargaining among knowledgeable and capable Parties in a cooperative process, encouraged by this Commission and undertaken by the Parties

representing a wide range of interests, including the Commission's Staff,² to resolve the aforementioned issues. While this Stipulation is not binding on the Commission, it is entitled to careful consideration by the Commission. For purposes of resolving certain issues raised by these proceedings, the Parties stipulate, agree and recommend as set forth below.

Except for dispute resolution purposes, neither this Stipulation, nor the information and data contained therein or attached, shall be cited as precedent in any future proceeding for or against any Party, or the Commission itself. This Stipulation and Recommendation is a reasonable compromise involving a balancing of competing positions, and it does not necessarily reflect the position which one or more of the Parties would have taken if these issues had been fully litigated.

This Stipulation is expressly conditioned upon its adoption by the Commission, in its entirety and without modification. Should the Commission reject or modify all or any part of this Stipulation or impose additional conditions or requirements upon the Parties, the Parties shall have the right, within 30 days of issuance of the Commission's order, to file an application for rehearing. Upon the Commission's issuance of an Entry on Rehearing that does not without modification adopt the Stipulation in its entirety; any Party may terminate and withdraw from the Stipulation by filing a notice with the Commission within 30 days of the Commission's order on rehearing. Upon such notice of termination or withdrawal by any Party, pursuant to the above provisions, the Stipulation shall immediately become null and void.

All the Signatory Parties fully support this Stipulation and urge the Commission to accept and approve the terms hereof.

Staff will be considered a party for the purpose of entering into this Stipulation by virtue of O.A.C. Rule 4901-1-10(c).

WHEREAS, all of the related issues and concerns raised by the Parties have been addressed in the substantive provisions of this Stipulation, and reflect, as a result of such discussions and compromises by the Parties, an overall reasonable resolution of all such issues. This Stipulation is the product of the discussions and negotiations of the Parties, and is not intended to reflect the views or proposals which any individual party may have advanced acting unilaterally. Accordingly, this Stipulation represents an accommodation of the diverse interests represented by the Parties, and is entitled to careful consideration by the Commission;

WHEREAS, this Stipulation represents a serious compromise of complex issues and involves substantial benefits that would not otherwise have been achievable; and

WHEREAS, the Parties believe that the agreements herein represent a fair and reasonable solution to the issues raised in the cases set forth above concerning DE-Ohio's Rider FPP and Rider SRT;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties stipulate, agree and recommend that the Commission make the following findings and issue its Opinion and Order in these proceedings approving this Stipulation in accordance with the following:

- The Parties Agree that DE-Ohio's 2008 Rider SRT initially filed with the Commission in Case No. 07-975-EL-UNC, will be implemented as filed for rates effective in the first quarter of 2008, on a bills rendered basis, beginning with the first billing cycle for January 2008.
- 2. The Parties agree that the 2008 Rider SRT market price will include recovery of DE-Ohio's projected 2008 Rider SRT planning reserve capacity purchases by December 31, 2008, approximately \$16.8 million. In addition, the 2008 Rider SRT shall include

- recovery of another \$11.3 million related to prior years' under-recovery of Rider SRT purchases.
- 3. The Parties agree that Company will resume its quarterly filings to reconcile differences between actual revenue colleted and actual expenses for Rider SRT.
- 4. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio will accept the Auditor's recommendation to formally document its procedures and guidelines for its Commercial Asset Management (CAM) Group for the procurement and management of fuel and emission allowances. The documentation will include procedures, and guidelines on Active Management.
- 5. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio will accept the Auditor's recommendation to evaluate its procedures and methods for forecasting coal consumption in an effort to bring forecasts more in line with actual consumption.
- 6. DE-Ohio agrees to work with Commission Staff to develop documentation that will facilitate the auditing of active management transactions included in Rider FPP, including but not limited to the following: (1) a clear and comprehensive set of procedures that address the portions of the portfolio that are subject to transactions and the specific triggers that allow identified portions and magnitudes of the portfolio to be traded; (2) an effective system of controls over the procedures; (3) the daily positions, market conditions and other relevant decision-making criteria; and, (4) actual transactions conducted, including rationale for any transactions not conforming to the documented procedures.
- 7. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio will evaluate the need and feasibility of additional security measures for transporting coal samples to the laboratory.

- 8. The Parties agree that the FPP rate will not be adjusted to reflect any disallowance for replacement power costs associated with the outage of the Zimmer Station from April 13, 2007 through June 11, 2007 as a result of this case. The Parties further agree that the Auditor in the next audit shall, for the purpose of recommending an appropriate adjustment, if any, to the FPP rate: (1) examine DE-Ohio's operation, maintenance, and turbine-related activities at the Zimmer Station; (2) determine if the extended portion of the April 13, 2007, through June 11, 2007, outage was prudent; and, (3) make a recommendation regarding recovery of fuel and purchased power costs associated with the extended portion of the outage.
- 9. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio will adopt the Auditor's recommendation regarding safety consciousness, cleanliness, and employee attitude at its Beckjord generating station.
- 10. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio shall fund all necessary capital and O&M required to maintain reliability and safety at its Beckjord Generating Station in 2008.
- 11. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio will adopt the Auditor's recommendation to conduct a staffing review at its coal plants to assure that staffing reductions are not resulting in, and do not have a significant potential for resulting in adverse operational performance.
- 12. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio will adopt the Auditor's recommendation to perform an economic analysis to determine the level of spare parts at, the ability to share parts among, and the use of on-line maintenance/ redundant equipment at its generating stations.
- 13. The Parties agree that DE-Ohio will adopt the Auditor's recommendation to examine the cause of its under-collection of Fuel Costs.

14. In the first quarter of 2009, the Company will make a filing with the Commission proposing the manner any true-up of the Rider SRT, Rider AAC reagents costs, and Rider FPP.

The undersigned hereby stipulate and agree and each represents that it is authorized to enter into this Stipulation and Recommendation this $\sqrt{3^{7/7}}$ day of December 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul A. Colbert, Trial Attorney Associate General Counsel Rocco D'Ascenzo, Counsel Duke Energy Ohio

2500 Atrium II, 139 East Fourth Street P. O. Box 960 Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-0960 (513) 287-3015 Its Attorney, Werner Margard

Its Attorney, David Boehm

On Behalf of Industrial Energy Users of Ohio

Its Attorney,

On Behalf of the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

Its Attorney,

On Behalf of the Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy

Its Attorney,

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served via overnight delivery this 13

day of Jacobi 2007 to the following:

Paul A. Colbert Rocco O. D'Ascenzo

David F. Boehm Michael L. Kurtz Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street, Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OH 45202

Samuel C. Randazzo Lisa G. McAlister Daniel J. Neilsen Joseph M. Clark McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC 21 East State Street, 17th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-4228

Duane Luckey Attorney General's Office Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street, 9th Floor Columbus, OH 43215

Jeffrey Small
Ohio Consumers' Counsel
10 West Broad Street Suite 1800
Columbus, OH 43215-3485

Ohio Partners For Affordable Energy Colleen L. Mooney 1431 Mulford Rd Columbus, OH 43212