

FILE

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Complaint of Betty Jean Putman,

Complainant,

v.

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.,

Respondent.

Case No. 07-1031-EL-CSS

ENTRY

The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) On September 18, 2007, Betty Jean Putman (complainant) filed a complaint against Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (DE-Ohio), alleging that she was on a Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) for 16 years, but is no longer a PIPP customer. The complainant states that DE-Ohio has billed her \$10,000, has turned off her service, and the company is asking her to pay \$3,000 to have her service turned back on. The complainant maintains that the company will not work with her to get her service turned back on.
- (2) On October 4, 2007, DE-Ohio filed its answer to the complaint denying the allegations in the complaint, except to the extent they are specifically admitted in the answer, and stating that it has complied with all applicable state statutes, the Commission's rules and regulations, and DE-Ohio's tariff.
- (3) By entry issued January 17, 2008, the attorney examiner scheduled this matter for settlement conference on February 20, 2008.
- (4) On February 20, 2008, the complainant contacted the offices of the Commission and said that, due to the weather conditions, she would not be able to attend the conference.
- (5) Accordingly, the attorney examiner finds that the settlement conference should be rescheduled to Thursday, March 13, 2008,

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at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, hearing room B, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

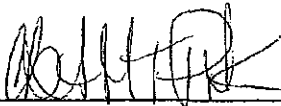
- (6) The purpose of the settlement conference will be to explore the parties' willingness to negotiate a resolution of this complaint in lieu of an evidentiary hearing. Therefore, the parties should bring with them all documents relevant to this matter.
- (7) An attorney examiner from the Commission's legal department will facilitate the settlement process. However, nothing prohibits either party from initiating settlement negotiations prior to the scheduled settlement conference.
- (8) If a settlement is not reached at the conference, the attorney examiner will conduct a discussion of procedural issues. Procedural issues for discussion may include discovery dates, possible stipulations of facts, and potential hearing dates.


It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the settlement conference be rescheduled to Thursday, March 13, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, 11<sup>th</sup> floor, hearing room B, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793. It is, further,

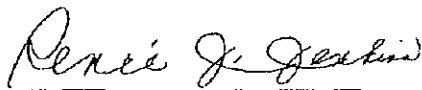
ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon each party of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

  
By: Christine M.T. Pirik  
Attorney Examiner

 /vrm  
Entered in the Journal

FEB 22 2008



Renee J. Jenkins  
Secretary