## BEFORE

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Columbus ) Southern Power Company and Ohio Power ) Company for Authority to Establish A Standard) Service Offer Pursuant to Section 4928.143, ) Revised Code, in the Form of an Electric ) Security Plan

Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO
Case No. 11-348-EL-SSO

In the Matter of the Application of Columbus ) Southern Power Company and Ohio Power ) Company for Approval of Certain Accounting ) Case No. 11-349-EL-AAM Authority

Case No. 11-350-EL-AAM

## DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

DYLAN SULLIVAN
ON BEHALF OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL AND THE SIERRA CLUB

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## Q. Please state your name, address, and position.

A. My name is Dylan Sullivan. My business address is 2 North Riverside Plaza, Suite 2250, Chicago, Illinois 60606. I am employed by the Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC") as an Energy Advocate.

Q: On whose behalf are you testifying in this proceeding?
A: I am testifying on behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Sierra Club, Ohio Chapter.
Q. Please describe your educational background and professional experience.
A. I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude, in Environmental Geology from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2004. I was awarded a Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Stanford University in June 2008. My Master's degree was energy focused: I graduated from the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department's Atmosphere/Energy program and took classes on economic analysis of natural resources and climate policy, air quality analysis, and energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and policies. I joined NRDC in June 2008. At NRDC, I work throughout the Midwest to promote energy efficiency policies that lower customer utility bills and cut pollution, including ensuring that electric utilities' energy efficiency portfolios are cost effective and address major end-uses of electricity and all customer classes. I also advocate for changes in regulations that guide the utility business model to ensure that the interests of utilities and their customers are aligned in the promotion of energy efficiency and renewable energy. I represent NRDC on the groups assisting Duke Energy-Ohio, American Electric Power-Ohio, and FirstEnergy's Ohio operating
companies in meeting the state's efficiency portfolio standard. I am currently writing NRDC's decoupling fact sheet and have conducted staff trainings on decoupling.

## Q. Have you previously testified before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO" or "Commission")?

A. Yes. I have testified before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio on: (i) the design, implementation, and administration of energy efficiency programs, (ii) policies that remove utilities' current disincentive to support energy efficiency, and (iii) policies that reward a utility for performing well in saving customers money through energy efficiency programs. ${ }^{1}$ I have also recently testified before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ${ }^{2}$ and the Illinois Commerce Commission. ${ }^{3}$

Q: What documents did you review to prepare your testimony?
A: I reviewed the Company's testimony in this case, the Company's responses to the discovery of NRDC and the Sierra Club, some of the Company's discovery responses to other parties, and the rider language for the Energy Efficiency/Peak Demand Reduction ("EE/PDR") Rider and the Green Power Portfolio Rider.

## Q: Please summarize your testimony.

A: Below, I (i) describe the Company's performance in implementing energy efficiency programs since 2009 and review the Company's proposal to continue the EE/PDR Rider, (ii) review the Company's proposed Green Power Portfolio Rider, and (iii) review the Company's proposed Plug-In Electric Vehicle ("PEV") Tariff.

[^0]Q: Does the Company request that the Commission continue its Energy Efficiency/Peak Demand Reduction ("EE/PDR") Rider in this case?

A: Yes. The Company requests that the Commission retain the EE/PDR Rider in this case, ${ }^{4}$ and that the "EE/PDR Rider continue to be set through a separate filings as is done currently and be updated annually each year as ordered by the Commission." ${ }^{\text {" }}$

Q: Characterize the Company's performance to-date in implementing energy efficiency programs.

A: The Company has, since approval of the prior Electric Security Plan, done an exemplary job of implementing energy efficiency programs. The Company has exceeded the energy saving targets provided in O.R.C. Section 4928.66 each year since 2009, at a lower price than anticipated in its plan. In regular collaborative meetings, the Company has kept stakeholders informed of its progress in implementing energy efficiency programs, timely notified stakeholders of changes in program tactics, and listened to our feedback. I estimate that the energy efficiency programs implemented by the Company in 2009 and 2010 will save customers more than $\$ 137$ million over the implemented measures' lifetimes, taking into account the costs of delivering the programs and excluding results from the Company's self direct and demand response programs. ${ }^{6}$

Q: In your opinion, should the Commission approve the Company's request to continue the EE/PDR Rider in this case?

A: Yes. The Company has proven that it can implement programs well and responsibly manage the money that customers pay for energy efficiency programs. Continuing the $\mathrm{EE} / \mathrm{PDR}$ rider in this case, subject to the same update process currently in place, would

[^1]assure the Company that it can recover its prudent costs of implementing energy efficiency programs. Over NRDC's 30-year history of monitoring utility energy efficiency efforts, assured and timely cost recovery has proven to be a necessary component of sustained utility investment in cost effective energy efficiency. Others recognize the importance of assured and timely recovery of prudently incurred program costs. For example, the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency Vision for 2025, developed by a Leadership Group of more than 60 regulators, utilities, advocates, and customer representatives, recommended that regulators "promote sufficient, timely, and stable program funding to deliver energy efficiency where cost effective." Approving AEP's proposal would do exactly that.

Q: Is the Company proposing a Green Power Portfolio Rider ("GPPR") in this case?
A: Yes. The Company's GPRR, available to customers under the Company's metered rate schedules, allows customers to opt-in to paying an extra "Green Energy Charge" perkWh , varying by the amount of renewable energy resources they wish to pay for. Customers who opt-in to the GPPR are exempt from paying the Alternative Energy Rider ("AER"), which collects the incremental (renewable energy certificate) costs of the Company's investments in renewable energy required by Ohio law. ${ }^{8}$ Company witness Roush states that the GPPR "gives customers the option to purchase $25 \%, 50 \%, 75 \%$, or $100 \%$ of their energy usage from renewable resources." ${ }^{\text {, }}$

## Q: Will the GPPR lead to renewable energy investments in excess of those already required by Ohio law?

[^2]A: No. Rather than leading to investments in renewable energy beyond those already required by Ohio law, the "amounts collected under the GPPR would offset costs paid by all other customers through the AER," according to Roush. ${ }^{10}$ Customers opting-in to the GPPR will be getting a "higher percentage of usage from renewable resources," ${ }^{11}$ but this means that other customers will be getting a lower percentage of usage from renewable resources because of the "offset."

Q: Is the fact the GPPR will not lead to additional investments in renewable energy problematic, in your opinion?

A: Yes. Customers who opt-in to the GPPR will be expressing their desire to see more renewable energy development, but they may not know that opting-in will not actually lead to development beyond what is already required. Of course, it is possible that some who opt-in will be consciously choosing to pick up more of the bill for AEP's required renewable energy effort than their neighbors. As a representative of NRDC's members in Ohio, many of whom would probably be interested in opting-in to this rider, I would caution them that their money will not actually lead to incremental investment.

Q: In your opinion, should the Commission approve the GPPR as proposed?
A: No. As designed it will not lead to additional renewable energy development, as many customers who opt-in will likely expect.

## Q: How could the Commission modify the GPPR to address this concern?

A: The Commission could instruct the Company to modify the rider so that the monies collected are used to purchase RECs above the amount required to meet Ohio law. If the Commission makes this change, GPPR customers should continue paying the AER so

[^3]Exhibit DES-1
they pay their share of the costs of the Company's renewable energy compliance effort. The Commission could also approve the rider as-is but require the Company to clearly disclose the fact that GPPR customer purchase of renewable energy will lower the amount purchased for other customers.

## Q: Describe the Company's proposed PEV Tariff.

A: The PEV tariff would be offered to 200 customers in the Company's service territory, and would include a Time of Use (TOU) tariff to encourage off-peak charging and a subsidized charging station and separate TOU meter. The Company is proposing the PEV tariff to better understand the affects of vehicle charging on its system, and to determine if all AEP Ohio customers could benefit from the PEV tariff. ${ }^{12}$

Q: Is the PEV tariff similar to other programs being introduced by other utilities.
A: Yes. The program as described is similar to a pilot program being offered by San Diego Gas \& Electric ("SDG\&E"). However, the SDG\&E program, approved by the California Public Utilities Commission on June $24,2010,{ }^{13}$ investigates the effect of different rates on customer charging behavior.

## Q: What is your opinion on the proposed PEV tariff?

A: In my opinion, the Commission should approve the proposed PEV tariff. It will give the Company valuable information on the response of its PEV-owning customers to a TOU rate. A PEV roll-out informed by this information would likely be more orderly than one based on extrapolations from other service territories. However, the Commission should instruct the Company to develop testable hypotheses about the impact of the TOU tariff

[^4]131 Q: Does this conclude your testimony? should investigate other pricing regimes.
on charging behavior. If the TOU rate does not have the expected effect, the Company

132 A: Yes.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the Direct Testimony of Dylan Sullivan has been filed with the Commission and has been served on the following parties by $U$. S. Postal Service or by e-mail on this 25th day of July, 2011.

Steven T. Nourse
American Electric Power
1 Riverside Plaza
Columbus OH 43215
stnourse@aep.com
Philip B. Sineneng
Thompson Hine LLP
Huntington Center
41 South High St., $17^{\text {th }}$ Flr
Columbus Oh 43215
philipsineneng@ThompsonHine.com
Jesse A. Rodriquez
300 Exelon Way
Kennett Square PA 19348
Jesse.rodiquea@exeloncorp.com
Michael L. Kurtz
Boehm Kurtz \& Lowery
36 East Seventh Street, \#1510
mkurtz@bkllawfirm.com
Jay E. Jadwin
AEP Service Corp
1 Riverside Plaza, 29 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Floor
Columbus OH 43215
jejadwin@aep.com
William A. Massey
1201 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington DC 20004-2401
wmassey@cov.com


Matthew Satterwhite
American Electric Power
1 Riverside Plaza, 29 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ floor
Columbus Ohm 43215
misatterwhite@aep.com
Holly Rachel Smith
HItt Business Center \#3803
Rectortown Road
Marshall VA 20115
holly@raysmithlaw.com

Sandy I. Grace
100 Constitution Ave., \#400 East
Washington DC 20001
sandy.grace@exeeloncorp.com
Glen Thomas
1060 First Avenue, \#400
King of Prussia PA 19406
gthomas@gtpowergroup.com
Christopher L. Miller
250 West Street
Columbus OH 43215
cmiller@szd.com

Mark A. Hayden
76 South Main Street
Akron OH 44308
hayden@firstenergycorp.com

| Barth E. Royer | David C. Rinebolt |
| :---: | :---: |
| 33 South Grant Avenue | Colleen Mooney |
| Columbus OH 43215-3927 | 231 West Lima Street |
| BarthRoyer@aol.com | drinebolt@ohioparthers.org |
|  | Cmooney2@columbus.rr.com |
| Amy Spiller | Terry Etter \& Maureen R. Grady |
| 139 E. Fourth Street | Ohio Consumers' Counsel |
| PO BOX 960 | 10 West Broad Street |
| Amy.spiller@duke-energy.com | Columbus OH 43215 |
|  | etter@occ.state.oh.us |
|  | grady@occ.state.oh.us |
| Mark Yurik \& John Bentine | Lisa G. McAlister \& Christopher Montgomery |
| 65 East State Street \#1000 | Bricker \& Eckler |
| Columbus OH 43215 | 100 South Third Street |
| jbentine@cwslaw.com | Columbus OH 43215 |
| myurik@cwslaw.com | cmontgomery@bricker.com |
|  | todonnell@bricker.com |
|  | tobrien@bricker.com |
| Howard Petricoff | Michael Smalz |
| Stephen M. Howard | Joseph Maskovyak |
| Michael J. Settineri | OSLSA |
| Vorys Sater Seymour \& Pease | 555 Buttles Avenue |
| 52 E. Gay Street | Columbus OH 43215-1137 |
| PO Box 1008 | msmalz@ohiopovertylaw.org |
| Columbus OH 43215-1008 | imaskovyak@ohiopovertylaw.org |
| mhpetricoff@vorys.com smhoward@vorys.com |  |
| msettineri@vorys.com |  |
| Kenneth Krieder | Michael L. Kurtz |
| One East Fourth Street | Boehm Kurtz \& Lowery |
| Suite 400 | 30 East Seventh St., \#1510 |
| Cincinnati OH 45202 | Cincinnati OH 45202 |
| kpkrieder@kmklaw.com | mkurtz@bkllawfirm.com |
|  | dboehm@bkllawfirm.com |
| Laura Chapelle | Anthony Corbett |
| 4218 Jacob M Endoes | Duke Energy Business Service |
| Okemas MI 48864 | 139 E Fourth St., 1303 Main |
| laura@chapelleconsulting.net | Cincinnati OH 45202 |
|  | Dorothy.corbett@duke-energy.com |

James F. Lang<br>Laura McBride<br>N. Trevor Alexander<br>800 Superior Ave<br>Cleveland OH 44114<br>jlang@calfee.com<br>Imcbride@calfee.com<br>talexander@calfee.comk<br>fdarr@mwech.com<br>imaskovyak@ohiopovertylaw.org<br>sfisk@nrdc.org<br>Ned.ford@fuse.net<br>henryeckhart@aol.com.

Richard Sites
Ohio Hospital Association
155 East Broad St., $15^{\text {th }}$ floor
Columbus OH 43215
ricks@ohanet.org




[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Case No. 08-935-EL-SSO, Case No. 09-1947-EL-EEC, et al., and Case No. 10-388-EL-SSO.
    ${ }^{2}$ Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Cause No. 43839.
    ${ }^{3}$ Illinois Commerce Commission Case No. 10-0527.

[^1]:    ${ }^{4}$ Sloneker at 5 Lines 17-19.
    ${ }^{5}$ Moore at 10 Lines 16-18.
    ${ }^{6}$ See Exhibit DES-2.

[^2]:    ${ }^{7}$ Executive Summary, National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency Vision for 2025: A Framework for Change, November 2008, Page ES-1.
    ${ }^{8}$ Exhibits DMR-5 and DMR-6, Sheets 98-1 and 98-2.
    ${ }^{9}$ Roush at 7 , Lines 3-5.

[^3]:    ${ }^{10} \mathrm{Id}$, Lines 6-7.
    ${ }^{11}$ Roush at 6, Line 18.

[^4]:    ${ }^{12}$ Stoneker at 5-7.
    ${ }^{13} \mathrm{http}: / /$ docs.cpuc.ca.gov/word_pdf/FINAL_RESOLUTION/119984.pdf

