BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of Application of The East) Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East) Ohio for Approval of Tariffs to Adjust its) Automated Meter Reading Cost Recovery) Charge to Recover Costs Incurred in 2011.)

Case No. 11-5843-GA-RDR

<u>ENTRY</u>

The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) In an opinion and order issued October 15, 2008, in In the Matter of the Application of East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio for Authority to Increase Rates for its Gas Distribution Service, Case No. 07-829-GA-AIR, et al. the Commission approved a stipulation that allowed accumulated costs for the installation of automated meter reading (AMR) technology by the East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio (DEO) to be recovered through a separate charge (AMR cost recovery charge). The opinion and order contemplated periodic filings of applications and adjustments of the rate under the AMR cost recovery charge.
- (2) On February 28, 2012, DEO filed its application supporting a rate adjustment for the AMR cost recovery charge to recover costs incurred during 2011.
- (3) By entry issued March 5, 2012, the attorney examiner issued the following procedural schedule:
 - (a) March 30, 2012 Deadline for the filing of motions to intervene.
 - (b) March 30, 2012 Deadline for Staff and intervenors to file comments on the application.
 - (c) April 6, 2012 Deadline for DEO to file a statement informing the Commission whether the issues raised in the comments have been resolved.
 - (d) April 10, 2012 Deadline for the parties and Staff to file expert testimony.

- (e) In the event that some or all of the parties enter into a stipulation resolving some or all of the issues in this case, the parties must file such stipulation with the Commission by 9:00 a.m. on April 11, 2012.
- (f) In the event that all of the issues are not resolved or the parties enter into a stipulation, a hearing shall commence on April 11, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of the Commission.
- (4) On March 28, 2012, the office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) filed a motion for a one-week continuance of the procedural schedule. OCC notes that DEO, Staff, and Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy do not oppose OCC's proposed one-week continuance. OCC also requests an expedited ruling.

In support of its motion, OCC states that it requests a continuance so that it may have the opportunity to review responses to its discovery prior to filing its comments in this case. OCC also notes that the timing of DEO's AMR case conflicts with other cases before the Commission. Moreover, OCC anticipates that an opportunity to review discovery responses could potentially expedite a resolution of the case.

- (5) The attorney examiner finds that OCC's motion to continue the hearing is reasonable and should be granted. Accordingly, the procedural schedule shall be revised as follows:
 - (a) April 6, 2012 Deadline for the filing of motions to intervene.
 - (b) April 6, 2012 Deadline for Staff and intervenors to file comments on the application.
 - (c) April 13, 2012 Deadline for DEO to file a statement informing the Commission whether the issues raised in the comments have been resolved.
 - (d) April 17, 2012 Deadline for the parties and Staff to file expert testimony.
 - (e) In the event that some or all of the parties enter into a stipulation resolving some or all of the

issues in this case, the parties must file such stipulation with the Commission by 9:00 a.m. on April 18, 2012.

(f) In the event that all of the issues are not resolved or the parties enter into a stipulation, a hearing shall commence on April 18, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor, Hearing Room 11-D, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Any party requesting a continuance of the hearing must file a motion to continue the hearing with the Commission by 9:00 a.m. on April 18, 2012.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the OCC's motion a for one-week continuance of the procedural schedule is granted. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the parties adhere to the modified procedural schedule in accordance with Finding (5). It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon all parties and interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

By: L. Douglas Jennings Attorney Examiner

Entered in the Journal

MAR 3 0 2012

Sarey F. M. Neal

Barcy F. McNeal Secretary