

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Duke)
Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in) Case No. 12-1682-EL-AIR
Electric Distribution Rates.)

In the Matter of the Application of Duke)
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Tariff Approval.) Case No. 12-1683-EL-ATA

In the Matter of the Application of Duke)
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Approval to) Case No. 12-1684-EL-AAM
Change Accounting Methods.)

Pre-filed Testimony
of
John L. Berringer
Accounting and Electricity Division
Utilities Department

Staff Exhibit ____

March 19, 2013

- 1 1. Q. Please state your name and business address.
2
3 A. My name is John L. Berringer. My business address is 180 East
4 Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.
5
6
7 2. Q. By whom are you employed?
8
9 A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
10 (PUCO).
11
12
13 3. Q. What is your current position and what are your duties?
14
15 A. I am a Utility Specialist in the Accounting and Electricity
16 Division. My duties include conducting investigations of
17 assigned phases of rate case applications and other financial
18 audits of public utility companies subject to the jurisdiction of
19 the PUCO.
20
21
22 4. Q. Would you briefly state your educational background?
23
24 A. I graduated from The Ohio State University in 1991 with a
25 Bachelor of Arts in English. In addition, I earned a post-
26 baccalaureate Certificate of Accounting Concentration at
27 Columbus State Community College in 2012. I also completed a
28 graduate level course in utility regulation at The Ohio State
29 University in 2004.
30
31
32 5. Q. Please outline your work experience.
33
34 A. I have been with the PUCO since July 2003 and in the
35 Accounting & Electricity Division since April 2009. Prior to
36 working at the PUCO, I held various positions in the insurance,
37 education and health care industries.
38
39

1
2 6. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

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4
5 A. The purpose of my testimony is to address an objection from the
6 Applicant relative to an exclusion from the test year of expenses
7 associated with the street light audit program.
8
9

10 7. Q. In its Objection #12, the Applicant objects to the Staff's
11 exclusion of the proposed street light audit program. The
12 Applicant states the elimination of the program was not discussed
13 in the Staff report and thus its elimination was arbitrary and
14 unreasonable. How do you respond?
15
16

17 A. While the exclusion was not discussed in the Staff Report, the
18 Staff's decision to eliminate the program was neither arbitrary nor
19 unreasonable.
20
21

22 8. Q. Can you explain why Staff's decision was not arbitrary
23 and unreasonable?
24
25

26 A. Staff's decision was based upon a phone interview with a member
27 of the Company's staff on September 4, 2012. As a result of the
28 conversation, it was determined that the program did not and would
29 not occur at any time during the calendar year 2012, which is the
30 test year for this case. Since the program did not occur within the
31 test year, it cannot be considered as being a known and measurable
32 expense. Therefore, Staff excluded the expense in its entirety from
33 the Applicant's test year.
34

35 9. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
36
37

38 A. Yes it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental
39 testimony as described herein, as new information subsequently
40 becomes available or in response to positions taken by other parties.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Testimony of John L. Berringer, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, was served via electronic mail, upon the parties listed below, this 19th day of March, 2013.

/s/Thomas G. Lindgren

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Assistant Attorney General

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Summary: Testimony electronically filed by Mrs. Tonnetta Y Scott on behalf of PUCO