## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In	the	Matter		of	the	Commission's		)	
Inv	estiga	ition	of	Oh	io's	Retail	Electric	)	Case No. 12-3151-EL-COI
Service Market.								)	

## **ENTRY**

## The Commission finds:

- (1) Prior to 1999, electric utilities provided distribution, transmission, and generation in a bundled package. However, in 1999, the Ohio General Assembly passed Amended Substitute Senate Bill 3 (SB 3), enacting Chapter 4928 of the Revised Code. Electric utilities in Ohio have separated their charges into distribution, transmission and generation portions. Further, a market development period from 2001 to 2005 was intended as a transition period, allowing the market for electric generation to develop and to move away from the traditional rate-of-return approach.
- (2) In 2008, Amended Substitute Senate Bill 221 (SB 221) continued the deregulation process enhancing opportunities for customer retail electric service choices to include distributed generation, advanced and alternative energy sources, demand-side management, time-differentiated pricing, and advanced metering infrastructure, and strengthening corporate separation requirements.
- (3) On December 12, 2012, the Commission issued an entry initiating an investigation into the health, strength, and vitality of Ohio's retail electric service market and actions that the Commission may take to enhance the health, strength, and vitality of the market. The Commission presented a series of questions to stakeholders regarding market design and corporate separation, and invited stakeholders to present comments and reply comments.
- (4) Pursuant to the comments and reply comments filed in this case, the Commission finds that Ohio's retail electric service market would benefit from further stakeholder collaboration. Accordingly, the Commission finds that a series of stakeholder collaboration workshops should be scheduled for

12-3151-EL-COI -2-

stakeholders to promote coordinated efforts to further develop Ohio's retail electric service market. The workshops will be facilitated by Commission Staff and should be used to identify and overcome market constraints, existing issues impacting the relationship between competitive retail electric service providers and electric distribution utilities, existing issues regarding market access, and any other issues that can be overcome to further develop Ohio's retail electric service market. These workshops will be solution-driven; stakeholders attending the workshops are encouraged to recommend changes that can be immediately implemented by competitive retail electric service providers and electric distribution utilities, as well as changes that can be adopted by the Commission. The workshops should also be used for the development of a short term market development work plan. This market development work plan should identify changes that the Commission can adopt in the short term to promote the development of Ohio's retail electric service market. This market development work plan will be developed by Commission Staff, as a result of the stakeholder collaboration effort, and will be filed in this case after the workshops have concluded.

- (5) The Commission finds that stakeholder collaboration workshops should be held on the dates listed in this entry, 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. The workshop schedule will be as follows:
  - (a) June 25, 2013;
  - (b) July 30, 2013;
  - (c) September 5, 2013;
  - (d) October 10, 2013;
  - (e) November 7, 2013;
  - (f) December 12, 2013.
- (6) The Commission finds that by January 16, 2014, Commission Staff should file a status report in this case updating the

12-3151-EL-COI -3-

Commission on the progress of the stakeholder collaboration workshops and indicating whether further workshops would be beneficial or are needed for the development of the market development work plan. The status report should also include a proposed date on which Commission Staff can submit the market development work plan to the Commission.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That a series a stakeholder collaboration workshops be scheduled in accordance with finding (5). It is, further,

ORDERED, That Commission Staff file a status report in this case by January 16, 2014, in accordance with finding (6). It is, further,

ORDERED, That notice of this entry be served upon all electric utilities, all certified competitive retail electric service providers, all governmental aggregators providing retail electric service, the Commission's electric-energy industry list serve, the Ohio EDI Working Group list serve, and all other interested parties.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

hler, Chairman

Steven D. Lesser

Lynn Slaby

M. Beth Trombold

BAM/sc

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Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary