

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the :  
Application of Ohio Power :  
Company for Authority to :  
Establish a Standard :  
Service Offer Pursuant to : Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO  
Section 4928.143, Revised :  
Code, in the Form of an :  
Electric Security Plan. :

- - -

In the Matter of the :  
Application of Ohio Power :  
Company for Approval of : Case No. 13-2386-EL-AAM  
Certain Accounting :  
Authority. :

- - -

PUBLIC HEARING

before Commissioner Lynn Slaby, Public Utilities  
Commissioner, and Ms. Sarah Parrot, Attorney  
Examiner, at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio,  
180 East Broad Street, Room 11-B, Columbus, Ohio,  
called at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2014.

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1 APPEARANCES:

2 American Electric Power  
3 By Mr. Steven T. Nourse  
4 One Riverside Plaza  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

5 On behalf of the Ohio Power Company.

6 Bruce J. Weston, Ohio Consumers' Counsel  
7 By Mr. Joseph P. Serio  
10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

8 On behalf of the Residential  
9 Customers of the Ohio Power Company.

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1 Tuesday Afternoon Session,  
2 May 6, 2014.

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4 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you for coming  
5 today. It is just past 12:30. I think we get  
6 started. I will start by calling the case.

7 We are here today for a local public  
8 hearing in Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, which is  
9 captioned In the Matter of the Application of Ohio  
10 Power Company for Authority to Establish a Standard  
11 Service Offer Pursuant to Section 4928.143, Revised  
12 Code, in the Form of an Electric Security Plan.

13 As well as case No. 13-2386-EL-AAM, which  
14 is captioned In the Matter of the Application of Ohio  
15 Power Company for Approval of Certain Accounting  
16 Authority.

17 My name is Sarah Parrot. I am one of the  
18 attorney examiners assigned by the Commission to  
19 these cases. The other examiner on the case is Greta  
20 See. She is also with us today in the audience. As  
21 well we have some of the Commission staff present  
22 today. We have in the first row Holly Karg and Matt  
23 Schilling with the Public Affairs Department, as well  
24 as some of the staff in the hallway that greeted you  
25 today. They are with the Service Monitoring and

1 Enforcement Department of the Commission.

2 Also presiding with me today is  
3 Commissioner Lynn Slaby, who is seated here to my  
4 right, and I think he has a few brief words to share  
5 with you today.

6 COMMISSIONER SLABY: Thank you. I just  
7 want to welcome everybody here and tell you that we  
8 are certainly open to all testimony, opponents and  
9 proponents. Anybody that wants to speak is perfectly  
10 welcome to speak.

11 We do listen. Sometimes people don't  
12 think we listen, but we do. We all try to get  
13 through all the testimony that is presented to us in  
14 some form or another before we finally make a  
15 decision on behalf of the Commission, so it is  
16 important that we do hear from you because the more  
17 information we get, the better our decisions will be

18 So I thank you for participating today.  
19 Doesn't look like we have but three, but if there is  
20 anybody else that wishes at the end to say something,  
21 please feel free to do so.

22 Thank you for attending today.

23 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

24 I should say as well our staff is  
25 available following our hearing if you have questions

1 about a utility matter other than the application  
2 that is the subject of our hearing this afternoon.  
3 They will be available following the hearing to  
4 answer your questions,

5 At this time, though, let's get rolling  
6 with appearances of the parties, and we will start  
7 with counsel for Ohio Power Company.

8 MR. NOURSE: Thank you, your Honor. On  
9 behalf of the Ohio Power Company, Steven T. Nourse,  
10 One Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

11 And also with me is Mr. Spitznogle, if  
12 you want to introduce yourself, and the other Ohio  
13 Power folks that are here.

14 MR. SPITZNOGLE: Gary Spitznogle with AEP  
15 Ohio, Gahanna, Ohio, 850 Tech Center Drive. I'm the  
16 regulatory and finance vice president.

17 Also here is Michele Jeunelot.

18 Thank you.

19 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

20 On behalf of OCC.

21 MR. SERIO: Thank you, Your Honor. On  
22 behalf of the Residential Utility Customers of AEP  
23 Ohio, Bruce Weston, Consumers Counsel, by Joseph P.  
24 Serio.

25 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

1           Are there any other parties present in  
2           the room today?

3           All right. Seeing none, I would just  
4           note there are a number of other parties that have  
5           intervened in these proceedings. We have intervenors  
6           representing residential consumers, industrial  
7           customers, as well as commercial customers and other  
8           consumer advocate groups, and each of these parties  
9           is participating in these cases on behalf of their  
10          various constituents.

11          I would also note that on December 20,  
12          2013, Ohio Power Company filed an application with  
13          the Commission to establish a Standard Service Offer  
14          in the Form of an Electric Security Plan, or what we  
15          refer to as an ESP, which would be in effect from  
16          June 2015 through May 2018.

17          We have five local public hearings  
18          scheduled in these cases, and those cases are one  
19          aspect of the process before the Commission.

20          We also have an evidentiary hearing that  
21          is scheduled to commence on June 3, 2014, which will  
22          take place here in the Commission offices in  
23          Columbus.

24          The purpose of this afternoon's public  
25          hearing is to receive comments from the public

1 regarding Ohio Power Company's application. It is  
2 not a question-and-answer session, but is your  
3 opportunity to let the Commission know what you think  
4 about the Ohio Power Company's application.

5 Our hearing today is being transcribed by  
6 a court reporter. If you do plan to testify, please  
7 speak clearly so she can accurately reflect your  
8 comments on the record, and if you have a prepared  
9 written statement, it would be helpful if you could  
10 provide a copy of that to the court reporter.

11 When you arrived today, you were offered  
12 the opportunity to sign up to testify. After I  
13 finish with our introduction, I will begin calling  
14 witnesses forward that have signed on the sheet that  
15 they wish to testify.

16 I will ask each witness to come up to the  
17 podium and face the court reporter. Before you give  
18 your statement, I will ask that you provide your name  
19 and address for the record, and before you present  
20 your testimony, I will ask that you take an oath or  
21 affirmation that what you are about to say is the  
22 truth.

23 Your testimony will be considered part of  
24 the official record in these cases and will be  
25 reviewed by the Commission before a final decision is



1 made on AEP's application.

2 Additionally, the parties to the case, as  
3 well as myself and Commissioner Slaby, will be  
4 permitted to ask questions about your statement.

5 Should you decide that you do not wish to  
6 testify when I call your name, simply pass to the  
7 next witness, and once you testify and finish with  
8 your statement or if you are just here to observe  
9 today, of course, you may leave at any time.

10 We do appreciate your participation in  
11 today's hearing and we wish that anyone who is here  
12 and wishes to make a statement, that you have the  
13 opportunity to do that, so when we get through the  
14 list of witnesses that have signed the sign-in sheet,  
15 we will see if there are others in the room that wish  
16 to offer testimony as well.

17 At this time let's get started with our  
18 first witness, and we have -- and I'm sorry if I  
19 mispronounce names. I believe it's Darcy Hager.

20 (Witness sworn.)

21 EXAMINER PARROT: Please state your  
22 name and address for the record.

23 MR. HAGER: My name is Darcy Hager. I'm  
24 the executive secretary-treasurer for the Columbus  
25 and Central Ohio Building Trades Council. My address

1 is 20590 Collins Road, Milford Center, Ohio 43045.

2 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

3 - - -

4 DARCY HAGER

5 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was  
6 examined and testified as follows:

7 DIRECT TESTIMONY

8 MR. HAGER: Thank you for giving me the  
9 opportunity to speak here today at this hearing.

10 Just a couple of bullet points about the  
11 AEP Ohio Security Plan. The plan projects an average  
12 9 percent decrease in rates over a three-year term  
13 for customers who will receive their generation  
14 through AEP Ohio.

15 Reliability will be further enhanced.  
16 AEP Ohio is proposing to hire 150 line mechanics and  
17 construction support personnel, which creates jobs  
18 for the local economy and also the state.

19 Customers who shop will be able to be  
20 placed on budget and average monthly payment programs  
21 not currently available, with only one billing  
22 entity, AEP Ohio, and an Economic Development Rider  
23 which gives permission to AEP to continue its efforts  
24 to stimulate the economy in the state of Ohio,  
25 attract and retain business to our state, and

1 creating job opportunities.

2 In closing I would just like to say that  
 3 AEP is a good corporate partner, a great corporate  
 4 citizen. They provide hundreds of construction jobs  
 5 not only here in Columbus and Franklin County and  
 6 Central Ohio, the members I represent, but also  
 7 providing thousands of construction jobs throughout  
 8 the entire state, which provide good jobs and  
 9 benefits for their families, while working hundreds  
 10 of thousands of man-hours per year throughout the  
 11 state of Ohio in construction.

12 Thank you.

13 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you, Mr. Hager.

14 Any there any questions from counsel?

15 Thank you very much.

16 Our next witness today is Dawn Tyler Lee.

17 (Witness sworn.)

18 EXAMINER PARROT: Please state your name  
 19 and address.

20 MS. TYLER LEE: Dawn Tyler Lee, United  
 21 Way of Central Ohio, 360 South Third Street,  
 22 Columbus, 43215.

23 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

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DAWN TYLER LEE

being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was  
examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT TESTIMONY

MS. TYLER LEE: Commission Slaby,  
Ms. Parrot, Commission staff, guests, thank you for  
this opportunity to provide comments on behalf of  
United Way of Central Ohio, president and CEO, Janet  
Jackson, to share some of the ways AEP has been an  
excellent corporate citizen and steadfast supporter  
of the work of the United Way of Central Ohio.

Each year AEP conducts a strong United  
Way campaign. Through those campaigns, AEP employees  
have invested almost \$19 million over the past ten  
years. Not only does AEP provide financial resources  
to our work, they provide human resources as well.

AEP and AEP Ohio's senior management  
provide a tremendous support and service for United  
Way. The 2014 campaign cochairs are Nick Akins,  
chairman, president and CEO, and his wife Donna.  
Pablo Vegas, president and COO of AEP Ohio, serves on  
our Board of Trustees. Past AEP campaign chairs  
include: Former chairman, president and CEO, Mike  
Morris, and former vice chairman, Carl English.

In addition, AEP consistently supports

1 our campaign by also providing executives to sit on  
2 the Campaign Cabinet, which supports our annual  
3 fundraising efforts, and the Resource Development  
4 Committee, which helps us develop long-range,  
5 multiyear development plans.

6 AEP has also been a long-time sponsor of  
7 our annual Celebration of Excellence, which  
8 recognizes the organizations that have worked to  
9 raise money for the campaign.

10 In 2010 and 2011, AEP Ohio donated  
11 \$600,000 to the United Way of Central Ohio to help  
12 people who are struggling to meet their basic needs,  
13 like housing and access to critical health care. In  
14 September 2010, AEP challenged our community to raise  
15 an additional \$400,000 through "The AEP's \$1 million  
16 Community Challenge for Basic Needs." The goal was  
17 exceeded by almost \$15,000.

18 AEP Ohio's \$600,000 donation is part of  
19 its "Partnership with Ohio" fund, which enables  
20 United Ways and food banks across Ohio, as well as  
21 other service-based organizations, to provide  
22 additional help in the areas of health, hunger, and  
23 housing to Ohio's families in need.

24 The money raised in the AEP challenge  
25 went to support United Way-funded programs that help

1 people build pathways out of poverty by meeting  
2 critical basic needs like food, shelter, and  
3 emergency financial assistance.

4 AEP communications director, Teresa  
5 McWain, serves on our Marketing Committee, where her  
6 invaluable insights help us craft effective messages  
7 that communicate the importance of the work we  
8 accomplish together with all of our donors,  
9 advocates, and volunteers.

10 AEP manager of community affairs, Renee  
11 Shumate, who is with us today, is another important  
12 member of the United Way family and is a founder of  
13 the women's leadership giving group, the Women's  
14 Leadership Council, and is serving this year as the  
15 vice chair.

16 It is our honor to work with such a  
17 committed corporate partner like AEP, without whom  
18 much of our work would not be possible.

19 Thank you for this opportunity to provide  
20 comments.

21 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

22 Any questions?

23 Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

24 And our next witness is, and I apologize  
25 again, I believe it's Elf Di Bella.

1 (Witness sworn.)

2 EXAMINER PARROT: Please state your name  
3 and address.

4 MS. DI BELLA: My name is Elfi Di Bella.  
5 I am president and CEO of YWCA Columbus, 65 South  
6 Fourth Street Columbus, Ohio 43215.

7 - - -

8 ELFI DI BELLA  
9 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was  
10 examined and testified as follows:

11 DIRECT TESTIMONY

12 MS. Di BELLA: Thank you so much for the  
13 opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of AEP.

14 AEP is an excellent community partner  
15 because their support is vital to the nonprofit  
16 organizations who make this community strong. For  
17 over 30 years they have supported YWCA Columbus with  
18 cash donations, board members, and volunteers,

19 Recently AEP pledged \$1 million to the  
20 YWCA campaign. This is totally new money to, once  
21 again, benefit this community and the organization  
22 and all of the people and families we serve. These  
23 dollars will be used for HVAC improvements at the  
24 Griswold Building and will be used to support  
25 critical services YWCA Columbus provides in this

1 community.

2 In addition, Nick and Donna Akins of AEP  
3 have stepped up as cochairs of the campaign, along  
4 with Renee and Alex Shumate, once again representing  
5 community leaders, but also AEP's support, of course,  
6 ensuring our success during this process. Further,  
7 AEP's energy efficiency programs will be extremely  
8 usual in our newly renovated building.

9 As a community leader, I urge you to be  
10 as supportive of AEP as they are a vital part to our  
11 community and as supportive as they are to our  
12 community at large. They are a vital member of our  
13 success in Columbus, and I'm grateful for the wealth  
14 of support and services they provide to us and our  
15 community.

16 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

17 Any questions?

18 Thank you very much.

19 That concludes the witnesses that have  
20 signed in on our sign-in sheet. Is there anyone else  
21 at this time in the audience that wishes to testify?

22 I'm not seeing any hands. I am going  
23 suggest we take a very brief five-minute recess just  
24 to make sure there aren't any other individuals,  
25 maybe wandering the hallway. We did have a change in



1 room today, so I am just going to confirm that we  
2 have no one else wishing to testify, and we will  
3 reconvene in just a few minutes to wrap up the  
4 hearing.

5 (Recess taken.)

6 EXAMINER PARROT: At this point is there  
7 anyone else in the audience that wishes to offer  
8 testimony today?

9 All right. Seeing none, we have taken a  
10 short recess to allow anyone else to wander in, and  
11 seeing no one, I think we are going to say that our  
12 hearing this afternoon has concluded.

13 Again, thank you all for coming and  
14 testifying today. We will stick around for a few  
15 moments in case anyone has questions. Again, thank  
16 you and have a nice afternoon.

17 (The hearing adjourned at 12:57 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken by me in this matter on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, and carefully compared with my original stenographic notes.

---

Rosemary Foster Anderson,  
Professional Reporter and  
Notary Public in and for  
the State of Ohio.

My commission expires April 5, 2019.

(RFA-75471)

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**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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Summary: Transcript Proceedings held May 6, 2014 electronically filed by Mrs. Jennifer Duffer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc. and Anderson, Rosemary Foster Mrs.