

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE ALTERNATIVE
ENERGY PORTFOLIO STATUS REPORT
FOR 2014 OF ETHICAL ELECTRIC, INC.

CASE NO. 15-737-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on June 8, 2016

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} In this Finding and Order, the Commission approves the 2014 Alternative Energy Portfolio Status Report of Ethical Electric, Inc.

II. DISCUSSION

A. *Applicable Law*

{¶ 2} Ethical Electric, Inc. (EEI) is an electric services company as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(9) and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} R.C. 4928.64(B)(2) establishes benchmarks for electric services companies to acquire a portion of their electricity supply for retail customers in Ohio from renewable energy resources. R.C. 4928.645 provides that an electric utility or electric services company may use renewable energy credits (RECs) and solar energy credits (SRECs) to meet its respective renewable energy and solar benchmarks. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-01(BB) defines a REC as the environmental attributes associated with one megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity generated by a renewable energy resource, except for electricity generated by facilities as described in Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-04(E).

{¶ 4} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-05(A) requires each electric services company to annually file by April 15 an alternative energy portfolio status report (AEPS report), unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. The AEPS report must analyze all

activities the company undertook in the previous year in order to demonstrate how pertinent alternative energy portfolio benchmarks have been met. Staff then conducts an annual compliance review of the company's filing and the records of the applicable attribute tracking system to ensure that RECs were sourced from generating facilities certified by the Commission and were appropriately associated with electricity generated for the compliance period.

B. Procedural History

{¶ 5} On April 15, 2015, EEI filed its 2014 AEPS report. EEI stated that it began serving Ohio customers in August 2014. EEI proposed a baseline of 47 MWh, which it indicated was its actual Ohio retail electric sales for 2014. EEI further reported that it satisfied its 2014 compliance obligations.

{¶ 6} On April 6, 2016, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for EEI's AEPS report. Staff reports that EEI was an electric services company in the state of Ohio, and thus had an AEPS obligation for 2014. Staff reviewed EEI's attribute tracking system account record to verify compliance, and determined that EEI satisfied its 2014 AEPS compliance obligations. Further, Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, EEI initiate the transfer of the appropriate RECs and SRECs to its attribute tracking system reserve subaccount between March 1 and April 15 so as to precede the filing of its annual AEPS report with the Commission.

C. Commission Conclusion

{¶ 7} Upon review of EEI's 2014 AEPS report and the records of these proceedings, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that EEI's 2014 proposed compliance baseline is reasonable, and that EEI has met its compliance obligations for 2014. Further, EEI is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

III. ORDER

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That EEI's 2014 AEPS report be accepted as filed, as EEI has met its AEPS compliance obligations for 2014. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That EEI comply with Staff's recommendations adopted herein. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

Commissioners Voting: Asim Z. Haque, Chairman; Lynn Slaby; Thomas W. Johnson.

JML/sc