## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNCOLLECTIBLE EXPENSE RIDER OF DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC. AND RELATED MATTERS.

**CASE NO. 16-318-GA-UEX** 

## FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on July 13, 2016

#### I. SUMMARY

**{¶ 1}** In this case, the Commission approves the application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. to adjust its uncollectible expense rider.

### II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is a natural gas company as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- {¶ 3} On December 21, 2005, the Commission authorized Duke to establish an uncollectible expense (UEX) rider, which was initially set at zero. *In re Cincinnati Gas & Electric Co.*, Case No. 05-732-EL-MER, et al., Finding and Order (Dec. 21, 2005).
- {¶ 4} Duke's current UEX rider rate of \$0.04185 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf) was approved on September 16, 2015. *In re Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 15-318-GA-UEX, Finding and Order (Sept. 16, 2015).
- {¶ 5} On May 27, 2016, Duke filed, in the above-captioned proceeding, the instant application requesting an adjustment to its current UEX rider rate. Specifically, Duke proposes to increase its UEX rider rate to \$0.07706 per Mcf, as shown below.

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Current	Proposed	Proposed	
Rate	Rate	Increase	
\$0.04185	\$0.07706	\$.03521	
per Mcf	per Mcf	per Mcf	

- {¶ 6} On June 16, 2016, Staff filed its comments regarding the proposed revised UEX rider rate. Staff states that Duke appropriately calculated the rider; therefore, Staff recommends the proposed rate of \$0.07706 per Mcf be approved.
- {¶ 7} The Commission has reviewed the application, as well as Staff's comments, and finds that Duke's application to adjust its UEX rider rate to \$0.07706 per Mcf is reasonable, is in the public interest, and should be approved. Accordingly, the Commission finds that Duke should be authorized to include the revised UEX rider rate in its tariff, which contains the terms, conditions, and rates Duke applies to the gas service it provides to customers.

#### III. ORDER

- $\{\P 8\}$  It is, therefore,
- {¶ 9} ORDERED, That Duke's application to adjust its UEX rider rate to \$0.07706 per Mcf is approved. It is, further,
- {¶ 10} ORDERED, That Duke is authorized to file tariffs, in final form, consistent with this Finding and Order. Duke shall file one copy in this case docket and one copy in its TRF docket. It is, further,
- {¶ 11} ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariffs shall be a date not earlier than the date upon which the final tariff pages are filed with the Commission. It is, further,

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**[¶ 12]** ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any future proceeding or investigation involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

**[¶ 13]** ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

# THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

Lynn Slaby

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Thomas W. Johnson

M. Beth Trombold

M. Howard Petricoff

KKS/vrm

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JUL 1 3 2016

Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary