THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A STANDARD SERVICE OFFER PURSUANT TO R.C. 4928.143, IN THE FORM OF AN ELECTRIC SECURITY PLAN.

CASE NO. 16-1852-EL-SSO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF CERTAIN ACCOUNTING AUTHORITY.

CASE NO. 16-1853-EL-AAM

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 28, 2017

- $\{\P 1\}$ Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio (AEP Ohio) is an electric distribution utility as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(6) and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- {¶ 2} R.C. 4928.141 provides that an electric distribution utility shall provide consumers within its certified territory a standard service offer (SSO) of all competitive retail electric services necessary to maintain essential electric services to customers, including a firm supply of electric generation services. The SSO may be either a market rate offer in accordance with R.C. 4928.142 or an electric security plan (ESP) in accordance with R.C. 4928.143.
- {¶ 3} In Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission modified and approved AEP Ohio's application for an ESP for the period beginning June 1, 2015, through May 31, 2018, pursuant to R.C. 4928.143. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Feb. 25, 2015), Second Entry on Rehearing (May 28, 2015), Fourth Entry on Rehearing (Nov. 3, 2016), Seventh Entry on Rehearing (Apr. 5, 2017).

- {¶ 4} On November 23, 2016, in the above-captioned cases, AEP Ohio filed an application that, if approved, would modify the ESP and extend its term through May 31, 2024.
- {¶ 5} By Entry dated February 7, 2017, an evidentiary hearing in these matters was scheduled to commence on June 6, 2017. Subsequently, on June 6, 2017, the evidentiary hearing was rescheduled to commence on August 8, 2017, in order to afford the parties sufficient time to fully explore the possibility of reaching a resolution of some or all of the issues raised in these proceedings.
- {¶ 6} On August 2, 2017, Staff filed a motion for a continuance of the evidentiary hearing. In the motion, Staff stated that, although some of the parties had reached a settlement agreement in principle, additional time was necessary to complete the drafting process. On August 3, 2017, the attorney examiner granted Staff's motion for continuance, such that the evidentiary hearing was continued to a date to be determined in the future. A status conference was also scheduled for August 16, 2017.
- {¶ 7} The status conference was held, as scheduled, on August 16, 2017. During the status conference, AEP Ohio indicated that the process of finalizing the settlement agreement remained ongoing.
- $\{\P 8\}$ On August 25, 2017, AEP Ohio filed a joint stipulation and recommendation for the Commission's consideration.
- {¶ 9} At this time, the attorney examiner finds that a prehearing conference should be scheduled for August 31, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-A, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

 ${\P 10}$ It is, therefore,

 \P 11} ORDERED, That a prehearing conference be held on August 31, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-A, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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s/Sarah Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot Attorney Examiner

JRJ/sc

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in

Case No(s). 16-1852-EL-SSO, 16-1853-EL-AAM

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry scheduling a prehearing conference for 08/31/2017 in accordance with Paragraph 9. - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Sarah Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio