THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF KENNETH B. LOGAN,

COMPLAINANT,

v.

CASE NO. 17-1943-EL-CSS

OHIO POWER COMPANY,

RESPONDENT.

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on November 6, 2017

- {¶ 1} Pursuant to R.C. 4905.26, the Commission has authority to consider written complaints filed against a public utility by any person or corporation regarding any rate, service, regulation, or practice relating to any service furnished by the public utility that is in any respect unjust, unreasonable, insufficient, or unjustly discriminatory.
- $\{\P\ 2\}$ Respondent, Ohio Power Company (AEP-Ohio), is a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- {¶ 3} On September 6, 2017, Kenneth B. Logan (Complainant) filed a complaint against AEP-Ohio. In the complaint, the Complainant alleges that AEP-Ohio has misread his meter, billed him improperly, and failed to issue a rebate. The Complainant also alleges that AEP-Ohio inappropriately assessed him charges relating to the service of disconnection notices.
- {¶ 4} On September 26, 2017, AEP-Ohio filed an answer in which it denied all material allegations in the complaint.
- {¶ 5} At this time, the attorney examiner finds that this matter should be scheduled for a settlement conference. The purpose of the settlement conference will be to explore the parties' willingness to negotiate a resolution of this complaint in lieu of an evidentiary

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hearing. In accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-26, any statement made in an attempt to settle this matter without the need for an evidentiary hearing will not generally be admissible to prove liability or invalidity of a claim. An attorney examiner from the Commission's legal department will facilitate the settlement process. However, nothing prohibits either party from initiating settlement negotiations prior to the scheduled settlement conference.

- {¶ 6} Accordingly, a settlement conference shall be scheduled for December 6, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 1246 at the offices of the Commission, 12th Floor, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. If a settlement is not reached at the conference, the attorney examiner may conduct a discussion of procedural issues. Procedural issues for discussion may include discovery dates, possible stipulations of facts, and potential hearing dates.
- {¶ 7} Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-26(F), the representatives of the public utility shall investigate the issues raised in the complaint prior to the settlement conference, and all parties attending the conference shall be prepared to discuss settlement of the issues raised and shall have the requisite authority to settle those issues. In addition, parties attending the settlement conference should bring with them all documents relevant to this matter.
- $\{\P 8\}$ As is the case in all Commission complaint proceedings, the complainant has the burden of proving the allegations of the complaint. *Grossman v. Public. Util. Comm.*, 5 Ohio St. 2d 189, 214 N.E. 2d 666 (1966).
 - $\{\P 9\}$ It is, therefore,
- {¶ 10} ORDERED, That a settlement conference be held on December 6, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room 1246 at the offices of the Commission, 12th Floor, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. It is, further,

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 \P 11 ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties and interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ L. Douglas Jennings
By: L. Douglas Jennings **Attorney Examiner**

jrj/vrm

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in

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Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry scheduling December 6, 2017, settlement conference; electronically filed by Vesta R Miller on behalf of L. Douglas Jennings, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio