

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S
INVESTIGATION OF THE DISCONNECTION
PRACTICES AND POLICIES OF DUKE ENERGY
OHIO, INC.

CASE No. 17-2089-GE-COI

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on February 6, 2018

{¶ 1} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke or the Company) is an electric light company and 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.

{¶ 2} Following an evidentiary hearing in Case No. 15-298-GE-CSS, the Commission found, among other things, that Duke failed, in that case, to comply with the winter heating season disconnection requirements of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-18-06(B) and that a comprehensive review of the Company's disconnection policies and procedures is necessary. Specifically, the Commission indicated that, by future entry, a request for proposal (RFP) would be issued to obtain an auditor to undertake an investigation of Duke's current disconnection practices and policies for both its gas and electric service. *In re Complaint of Jeffrey Pitzer v. Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 15-298-GE-CSS, Opinion and Order (Aug. 30, 2017) at ¶ 83.

{¶ 3} By Entry dated October 11, 2017, in the above-captioned case, the Commission directed Staff to issue an RFP to acquire audit services for the review of Duke's disconnection practices and policies. On November 29, 2017, the Commission selected NorthStar Consulting Group (NorthStar) to perform the audit. The Commission also directed NorthStar to file its audit report by February 7, 2018.

{¶ 4} On January 31, 2018, Staff filed a motion for extension, requesting that the deadline for NorthStar's audit report be extended. Specifically, Staff proposes that NorthStar's audit report be filed by March 14, 2018. Staff explains that additional time is needed to complete the review of Duke's disconnection practices and policies, in light of scheduling conflicts and the overall workload of the project.

{¶ 5} The attorney examiner finds that Staff's motion for extension should be granted pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-12(F), and that NorthStar should file its audit report no later than March 14, 2018. However, the attorney examiner emphasizes that, in order to ensure that the Commission-ordered audit of Duke's disconnection practices and policies is concluded in a timely manner, NorthStar and the Company should employ their best efforts to complete the necessary audit activities expeditiously.

{¶ 6} It is, therefore,

{¶ 7} ORDERED, That Staff's motion for extension be granted in accordance with Paragraph 5. It is, further,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all interested persons and parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/Sarah Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/sc

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Case No(s). 17-2089-GE-COI

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting Staff's motion for an extension to file audit report in accordance with Paragraph 5 electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Sarah Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio