

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF
STAR RAMBO,**

COMPLAINANTS,

v.

CASE NO. 18-41-EL-CSS

THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY,

RESPONDENT.

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on February 26, 2018

{¶ 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.

{¶ 2} Respondent, The Toledo Edison Company (Toledo Edison or Company), is a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} On January 11, 2018, Star Rambo (Complainant) filed a complaint against Toledo Edison. Among other things, the complaint alleges that, approximately three years ago, due to an alleged change in her marital status, Complainant had electric service transferred to an account in her name only. Complainant claims she was told that, to get service established on her own account, she had to assume the balance amount due on the account being transferred, which was not in her name. Complainant reports that, since this transfer, she has experienced difficulty in keeping up with the bills issued on her account and that service on her account has been disconnected for nonpayment five times. Her complaint relates to whether Toledo Edison properly advised her of her options in accomplishing the transfer and whether the Company has provided her

adequate assistance in the attempts she has made to reach mutually agreeable payment arrangements with the Company.

{¶ 4} Toledo Edison filed its answer on January 31, 2018. In its answer, Toledo Edison admits some, and denies others of the allegations set forth in the complaint, and sets forth several affirmative defenses.

{¶ 5} 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 in lieu of an evidentiary hearing. In accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-26, any statements 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 any party from initiating settlement negotiations prior to the scheduled settlement conference.

{¶ 6} Accordingly, a settlement conference shall be scheduled for April 5, 2018, at 1:00 p.m., at the Commission offices, 180 East Broad Street, 12th floor, Conference Room 1246, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793. The parties should bring with them all documents relevant to this matter. If a settlement is not reached at the conference, the attorney examiner will 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 on 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 authority to settle those issues.

{¶ 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).

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That a settlement conference be scheduled for April 5, 2018, at 1:00 p.m., at the Commission offices, 180 East Broad Street, 12th floor, Conference Room 1246, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/Daniel Fullin

By: Daniel E. Fullin
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/sc

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in

Case No(s). 18-0041-EL-CSS

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry scheduling settlement conference for 04/05/2018 at 1:00 p.m. in accordance with Paragraph 6 electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Daniel Fullin, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio