

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Review of Duke :
Energy Ohio, Inc.'s Distribution Capital : Case No. 17-1118-EL-RDR
Investment Rider. :
:

**COMMENTS
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

On April 2, 2015, The Commission modified and approved an application for an ESP filed by Duke for the period June 1, 2015, through May 31, 2018. *In re Duke Energy Ohio*, Case No. 14-1841-EL-SSO, *et. al.*, Opinion and Order (April 2, 2015). In the Opinion and Order, the Commission established a distribution capital investment (DCI) rider to allow for the recovery of capital costs for distribution infrastructure investments. The rider was to be reviewed annually for accounting accuracy, prudence, and compliance with the Commission's Order. Further, the Commission found that a compliance audit of the DCI rider is to be completed annually to ensure conformance with the Opinion and Order.

On June 7, 2017, The Commission issued an Entry directing Staff to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to acquire audit services to assist the Commission with the review of Duke's DCI rider. On July 12, 2017, Rehmann Consulting (the Auditor) was

selected as the contractor and was directed to file a final audit report on November 28, 2017. The Auditor filed its report on November 28, 2017.

Staff has reviewed the auditor's findings and recommendations and recommends that the Commission adopt them.

Respectfully submitted,

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William L. Wright
Section Chief

/s/ Steven L. Beeler _____

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the **Comments submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio** has been served upon the below-named counsel via electronic mail, this 28th day of March, 2018.

/s/ Steven L. Beeler

Steven L. Beeler

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Summary: Comments electronically filed by Mrs. Tonnetta Y Scott on behalf of PUCO