## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF VECTREN ENERGY DELIVERY OF OHIO, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE IN GAS RATES.

CASE NO. 18-298-GA-AIR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF VECTREN ENERGY DELIVERY OF OHIO, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN ALTERNATIVE RATE PLAN.

**CASE NO. 18-299-GA-ALT** 

#### **ENTRY**

Entered in the Journal on May 23, 2018

### I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission accepts for filing as of March 30, 2018, a combined application for an increase in rates and for an alternative rate plan filed by Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. and directs that legal notice of the application be published in the non-legal notice section of the applicable newspapers.

## II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. (VEDO or the Company) is a natural gas company and a public utility as defined by R.C. 4905.03 and R.C. 4905.02, respectively. As such, VEDO is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission pursuant to R.C. 4905.04, 4905.05, and 4905.06.
- {¶ 3} The fixation of rates for public utilities in the state of Ohio is governed by R.C. Chapter 4909. The statutory requirements for an application to increase a public utility's rates are enumerated in R.C. 4909.17, 4909.18, 4909.19, and 4909.43. Also, pursuant to R.C. 4901.13, 4909.04(C), and 4909.18, the Commission adopted Ohio Adm.Code 4901-7-01 and its Appendix (Standard Filing Requirements). These Standard Filing Requirements specify the format for filing all information required in an application for an increase in rates and define the information that the Commission requires pursuant to R.C. 4909.18(E).

- {¶ 4} Additionally, pursuant to R.C. 4929.05(A), a natural gas company may request approval of an alternative rate plan by filing an application to establish or change a rate under R.C. 4909.18.
- {¶ 5} On February 21, 2018, VEDO filed two separate notices of intent. First, in accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901-7-01, Appendix A, Chapter I of the Standard Filing Requirements and pursuant to R.C. 4909.43(B), the Company filed notice of intent to file an application for an increase in rates. Second, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-06(A), the Company filed a notice of its intent to file an application for approval of an alternative rate plan.
- {¶ 6} Subsequently, on February 23, 2018, VEDO filed a motion to establish a test year and date certain and for waiver of certain filing requirements pursuant to R.C. 4909.15(C) and Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-02(D), respectively. By Entry issued March 14, 2018, the Commission approved the test year and date certain and granted the requested waiver of specified Standard Filing Requirements.
- {¶ 7} On March 30, 2018, VEDO filed a combined application to increase rates and charges and for approval of an alternative rate plan pursuant to R.C. 4909.18 and R.C. 4929.05, respectively.
- $\{\P\ 8\}$  On May 22, 2018, Staff filed a letter stating that VEDO's application is in compliance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-06.
- {¶ 9} The Commission finds that VEDO's combined application meets the requirements of R.C. 4909.17 to 4909.19, the Standard Filing Requirements, and Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-06. Accordingly, the Commission finds that the combined application shall be accepted as of the filing date of March 30, 2018.
- {¶ 10} The Commission further finds that the Company's proposed notice for publication, set forth in the application as Schedule S-3, complies with R.C. 4909.19 and the

Standard Filing Requirements and should be approved. VEDO shall begin publication of the newspaper notice, pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, within 30 days of the date of this Entry; such notice shall not appear in the legal notices section of the applicable newspapers.

# III. ORDER

{¶ 11} It is, therefore,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That VEDO's combined application for an increase in rates and for an alternative rate plan shall be accepted for filing as of March 30, 2018. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That the proposed newspaper notice submitted by VEDO be approved for publication. It is, further,

**[¶ 14]** ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

Thomas W. Johnson

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

PAS/sc

Entered in the Journal MAY 2 3 2018

Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary