

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

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

CASE NO. 18-49-GA-ALT

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on October 5, 2018

{¶ 1} 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.

{¶ 2} On January 3, 2018, VEDO filed a notice of intent to file an application for approval of an alternative rate plan under R.C. 4929.05. *In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan*, Case No. 18-49-GA-ALT (CEP Rider Case).

{¶ 3} On February 21, 2018, the Company filed two additional notices of intent: one to file an application for an increase in rates and charges under R.C. 4909.18 and a second notice of intent to file a separate application for approval of an alternative rate plan under R.C. 4929.05. *In the Matter of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in Rates*, Case No. 18-298-GA-AIR; *In the Matter of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan*, Case No. 18-299-GA-ALT (together, *Rate Case Proceedings*).

{¶ 4} On March 30, 2018, VEDO filed its 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 in the *Rate Case Proceedings*. And, on April 13, 2018, VEDO filed its application for approval of an alternative rate plan in the *CEP Rider Case*. By Entry issued May 24, 2018, the attorney examiner granted a motion to consolidate all three of VEDO's cases into one proceeding (*Consolidated Rate Case*).

{¶ 5} Staff conducted an investigation of the facts, exhibits, and matters relating to VEDO's applications. On October 1, 2018, Staff filed a comprehensive written report of its investigation (Staff Report) in the docket for Case No. 18-298-GA-AIR. Staff filed the Staff Report in the remaining two case dockets on October 2, 2018.

{¶ 6} By Entry dated October 3, 2018, the attorney examiner issued a procedural schedule. The Entry indicated that local public hearings would be scheduled, and publication required, by subsequent entry.

{¶ 7} R.C. 4903.083 requires that the Commission hold at least one public hearing within VEDO's service territory and further requires that at least one such hearing be held after 5:00 p.m. Accordingly, local public hearings have been scheduled at the following times and locations:

- (a) Thursday, November 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Dayton Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 101 W. Third Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402.
- (b) Monday, November 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Fayette Commission on Aging, 1179 S. Elm Street, Washington Court House, Ohio 43160.
- (c) Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Sidney Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 201 W. Poplar Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

{¶ 8} VEDO should publish legal notice of the local public hearings in newspapers of general circulation in the affected service territory once a week for two consecutive weeks

prior to the scheduled date of the first local public hearing. The legal notice should not appear in the legal notices section of the newspaper. The notice should read as follows:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has scheduled local public hearings in Case Nos. 18-298-GA-AIR, *In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Increase in Gas Rates*; 18-299-GA-ALT, *In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan*; and 18-49-GA-ALT, *In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan*.

In its applications, VEDO requests approval of an increase in gas distribution rates and of two separate alternative rate plans. In its rate case, VEDO requests a rate increase of \$34,021,227, an increase of 20.23 percent over current revenues. After its review of VEDO's application and records, the Staff of the Commission recommends a revenue increase in the range of \$12,094,296 to \$16,187,084, which represents an increase of between 8.05 percent and 10.77 percent over current revenues. VEDO's applications for alternative rate plans seek to implement the following five elements: a distribution replacement rider to continue and expand the accelerated replacement of infrastructure; a multi-family housing pilot program to increase the opportunity for residents of multi-family housing units to enjoy the benefit of natural gas; continuation and expansion of its straight fixed variable rate design to small non-residential customers; an energy adjustment at the time of customer billing to reflect the variability in the energy content of the gas consumed; and a capital expenditure program rider, through which deferrals associated with investments made through its capital expenditure program would be reviewed annually.

These local hearings are scheduled to provide an opportunity for interested members of the public to testify in these proceedings. The local hearings will be held as follows:

- (a) Thursday, November 15, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Dayton Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 101 W. Third Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402.
- (b) Monday, November 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Fayette Commission on Aging, 1179 S. Elm Street, Washington Court House, Ohio 43160.
- (c) Wednesday, November 28, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at the Sidney Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 201 W. Poplar Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

The evidentiary hearing in these proceedings will commence on December 4, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-C, 11th Floor, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215-3793, by calling the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826, or by visiting the Commission's website at <http://www.puco.ohio.gov>.

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That local public hearings in this *Consolidated Rate Case* be held as stated in Paragraph 7. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That VEDO publish notice of the hearings as set forth in Paragraph 8. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/Patricia A. Schabo

By: Patricia A. Schabo
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/hac

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 18-0298-GA-AIR, 18-0299-GA-ALT, 18-0049-GA-ALT

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry scheduling local public hearings and instructing VEDO to publish notice of hearings electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Patricia Schabo, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission