

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

|   |   |                         |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| In the Matter of the Application of       | ) |                         |
| Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. for | ) | Case No. 18-0298-GA-AIR |
| Approval of an Increase in Gas Rates      | ) |                         |

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**TESTIMONY  
OF  
JOHN L. BERRINGER  
RESEARCH AND POLICY DIVISION  
RATES AND ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT**

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**STAFF EXHIBIT NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

January 22, 2019

**TESTIMONY OF JOHN L. BERRINGER**

1. Q. Please state your name and business address.

A. My name is John L. Berringer. My business address is 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

2. Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

A. I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO or Commission) as a Utility Specialist 2 in the Research and Policy Division of the Rates and Analysis Department. My duties include conducting investigations of assigned phases of rate case applications and other financial audits of public utility companies subject to the jurisdiction of the PUCO.

3. Q. Would you briefly state your educational background?

A. I earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from The Ohio State University in 1991. In 2012, I earned a post-baccalaureate Certificate of Accounting Concentration from Columbus State Community College.

4. Q. Please briefly outline your work experience.

A. I have been with the PUCO since July 2003 and in the Rates and Analysis Department since April 2009. Prior to working at the PUCO, I held various positions in the insurance, education, and healthcare industries.

1 5. Q. Have you testified in prior proceedings before the Commission?

2 A. Yes.

3

4 6. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?

5 A. The purpose of my testimony is to address Objection 3 and Objection 25  
6 from the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC).

7

8 7. Q. OCC's Objection 3 states that "Staff failed to recommend (but should have  
9 recommended) that a portion of investor relations expense be removed from  
10 test year operating expenses". How do you respond?

11 A. Staff agrees in principle with the objection. However, the issue regarding  
12 investor relations expense was not included in the terms of the Stipulation  
13 for this case. Staff believes that the Stipulation represents a fair and  
14 reasonable compromise of issues raised among the signatory parties.  
15 Therefore, Staff recommends that no modification to the Stipulation be  
16 made with regard to this issue.

17

18 8. Q. OCC's Objection 25 states that the PUCO Staff Report failed to  
19 recommend with regard to Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc.'s (VEDO  
20 or Company) rate case expense that parties have the opportunity to object  
21 to the Company's most recent updated information prior to the Commission  
22 entering a Final Order. How do you respond?

1           A.     Staff acknowledges that it did not state in the Staff Report that the parties  
2                   have the opportunity to object to the Company's most recent updated rate  
3                   case expense information prior to the Commission entering a Final Order.  
4                   Staff agrees with the objection, and recommends that the Commission  
5                   allow the parties to have the opportunity to object to the Company's most  
6                   recent updated rate case expense information prior to the Commission  
7                   entering a Final Order.

8  
9     9.     Q.     Does this conclude your testimony?

10           A.     Yes it does. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony  
11                   as described herein, as new information subsequently becomes available or  
12                   in response to positions taken by other parties.

## PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Testimony of John L. Berringer, submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, was served via electronic mail upon the below parties.

/s/Werner L. Margard III

**Werner L. Margard III**

Assistant Attorney General

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Summary: Testimony of John L. Berringer electronically filed by Ms. Tonnetta Scott on behalf of PUC