THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD STATUS REPORTS OF THE OHIO EDISON COMPANY, THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, AND THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY FOR THE 2014 THROUGH 2017 COMPLIANCE YEARS.

CASE NO. 15-743-EL-ACP CASE NO. 16-788-EL-ACP CASE NO. 17-946-EL-ACP CASE NO. 18-693-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on March 27, 2019

I. SUMMARY

[¶ 1] The Commission finds that the Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company have satisfied their renewable portfolio standard compliance obligations for the 2014 through 2017 reporting periods.

II. APPLICABLE LAW

- [¶ 2] The Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company (collectively, FirstEnergy EDUs or the Companies) are electric distribution utilities as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(6) and, as such, are subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- [¶ 3] R.C. 4928.64(B)(2) establishes benchmarks for electric distribution utilities (EDUs) to acquire a portion of their electricity supply for retail customers in Ohio from renewable energy resources. R.C. 4928.645 provides that an EDU or electric services company may use renewable energy credits (RECs) and solar energy credits (SRECs) to meet its respective renewable energy and solar benchmarks. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-01(BB) defines a REC as the environmental attributes associated with one megawatt hour of electricity generated by a renewable energy resource, except for electricity generated by facilities as described in Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-04(E).
- [¶ 4] Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-05(A) requires each EDU to annually file by April 15, a renewable portfolio standard compliance status report (RPS report), unless otherwise

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ordered by the Commission. The RPS report must analyze all activities the company undertook in the previous year in order to demonstrate how pertinent alternative energy portfolio benchmarks have been met. Staff then conducts an annual compliance review of the company's filing and the records of the applicable attribute tracking system to ensure that RECs were sourced from generating facilities certified by the Commission and were appropriately associated with electricity generated for the compliance period.

III. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

- [¶ 5] The Companies timely filed their annual RPS reports for the 2014 through 2017 reporting periods in the respective captioned cases.
- [¶ 6] On October 10, 2018, Staff filed its report finding that the Companies accurately calculated their RPS compliance obligations, and that the Companies transferred and retired sufficient RECs and SRECs to meet their compliance obligations for the 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 reporting periods. Staff also recommends that for future compliance years in which the Companies are utilizing the PJM EIS Generation Attributes Tracking System (GATS) to demonstrate their Ohio compliance efforts, the Companies should initiate the transfer of the appropriate RECs and SRECs to their GATS reserve subaccount between March 1st and April 15th, so as to precede the filing of their Ohio annual compliance status report with the Commission.
- [¶7] No comments or objections to the Companies RPS reports or Staff's recommendations have been filed by any party.

IV. DISCUSSION

{¶8} Upon review of the Companies RPS reports, we adopt Staff's recommendations and find that the FirstEnergy EDUs have met their RPS compliance obligations for 2014 through 2017.

V. ORDER

 $\{\P 9\}$ It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the RPS compliance reports for each FirstEnergy EDU for the 2014 through 2017 be accepted as filed. It is, further,

 \P 11} ORDERED, the FirstEnergy EDUs comply with Staff's recommendations with respect to future RPS report filings. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

M. Beth Trombold, Chair

M. Johnson

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

RMB/mef

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