

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
OHIO EDISON COMPANY, THE  
CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING  
COMPANY, AND THE TOLEDO EDISON  
COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF A  
DECOUPLING MECHANISM.

CASE NO. 19-2080-EL-ATA  
CASE NO. 19-2081-EL-AAM

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on December 3, 2019

{¶ 1} In this Entry, the attorney examiner establishes a comment period for review of the application for approval of a decoupling mechanism filed by Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company (the Companies or FirstEnergy).

{¶ 2} The Companies are electric distribution utilities (EDUs) as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(6) and public utilities as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, are subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} R.C. 4928.141 provides that an EDU shall provide customers within its certified territory a standard service offer (SSO) of all competitive retail electric services necessary to maintain essential electric services to customers, including firm supply of electric generation services. The SSO may be either a market rate offer in accordance with R.C. 4928.142 or an electric security plan (ESP) in accordance with R.C. 4928.143.

{¶ 4} On March 31, 2016, the Commission approved FirstEnergy's application for its fourth ESP. *In re Ohio Edison Co., The Cleveland Elec. Illum. Co., and the Toledo Edison Co. for Authority to Provide for a Std. Serv. Offer Pursuant to Section 4928.143, Revised Code, in the Form of an Elec. Security Plan*, Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO, Opinion and Order (Mar. 31, 2016).

{¶ 5} Am. Sub H. B. 6 (H.B. 6), which became effective on October 22, 2019, authorizes EDUs to file an application to implement a decoupling mechanism. Under this decoupling mechanism, "the base distribution rates for residential and commercial

customers shall be decoupled to the base distribution revenue and revenue resulting from implementation of section 4928.143 of the Revised Code, excluding program costs and shared savings, and recovered pursuant to an approved electric security plan under section 4928.143 of the Revised Code, as of the twelve month period ending on December 31, 2018.” R.C. 4928.471(A).

{¶ 6} On November 21, 2019, the Companies filed an application in this proceeding to implement a decoupling mechanism pursuant to R.C. 4928.471.

{¶ 7} R.C. 4928.471(B) states that the Commission shall issue an order approving an application for a decoupling mechanism not later than 60 days after the application is filed. The statute further states that, in determining that an application is not unjust and unreasonable, the Commission shall verify that the rate schedule or schedules are designed to recover the electric distribution utility's 2018 annual revenues as described in R.C. 4928.471(A) and that the decoupling rate design is aligned with the rate design of the electric distribution utility's existing base distribution rates.

{¶ 8} The attorney examiner finds that a comment period should be established for the review of the application filed by the Companies. Initial comments should be filed by December 17, 2019, and reply comments should be filed by December 27, 2019.

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That initial comments regarding the Companies application to implement a decoupling mechanism be filed by December 17, 2019, and reply comments be filed by December 27, 2019. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record in Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO and all parties of record in this proceeding.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/Gregory A. Price

By: Gregory A. Price  
Attorney Examiner

MJA/hac

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**Case No(s). 19-2080-EL-ATA, 19-2081-EL-AAM**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry setting deadline to file comments and reply comments regarding the Companies application electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Gregory A. Price, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio