

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL  
OF A DECOUPLING MECHANISM.

CASE No. 20-1099-EL-ATA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  
OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL  
TO CHANGE ACCOUNTING METHODS.

CASE No. 20-1100-EL-AAM

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on May 29, 2020

{¶ 1} Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio (AEP Ohio or the Company) is an electric distribution utility (EDU) as defined by R.C. 4928.01(A)(6) and a public utility as defined by R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 2} 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.

{¶ 3} In Case No. 16-1852-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission modified and approved a stipulation and recommendation filed by AEP Ohio, Staff, and numerous other signatory parties, which authorized the Company to implement an ESP for the period of June 1, 2018, through May 31, 2024. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 16-1852-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Apr. 25, 2018).

{¶ 4} Am. Sub. H.B. 6, which became effective on October 22, 2019, authorizes an EDU to file an application to implement a decoupling mechanism for 2019 and each calendar year thereafter. 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 R.C. 4928.66, excluding program costs and shared savings,

and recovered pursuant to an approved ESP under R.C. 4928.143, as of the 12-month period ending on December 31, 2018. R.C. 4928.471(A).

{¶ 5} 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 EDU'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 EDU's existing base distribution rates.

{¶ 6} On May 28, 2020, in the above-captioned case, AEP Ohio filed an application to implement a decoupling mechanism pursuant to R.C. 4928.471. Specifically, AEP Ohio proposes to establish a Conservation Rider, effective with the first billing cycle of August 2020, for commercial customers taking service under the Company's GS-2, GS-3, and GS-4 tariffs, excluding Electric Heating General.

{¶ 7} The attorney examiner finds that a comment period should be established for the review of AEP Ohio's application. Initial comments should be filed by June 12, 2020, and reply comments should be filed by June 22, 2020.

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That initial comments regarding AEP Ohio's application to implement a decoupling mechanism be filed by June 12, 2020, and reply comments be filed by June 22, 2020. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record in Case No. 16-1852-EL-SSO, et al., and all interested persons and parties of record in these proceedings.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Sarah J. Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot  
Attorney Examiner

MJA/mef

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**Case No(s). 20-1099-EL-ATA, 20-1100-EL-AAM**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry requiring initial comments be filed by June 12, 2020, and reply comments be filed by June 22, 2020. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E Fischer on behalf of Sarah J. Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio