BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Ohio Power Company for an)	Case No. 20-585-EL-AIR
Increase in Electric Distribution Rates.)	
In the Matter of the Application of)	
Ohio Power Company)	Case No. 20-586-EL-ATA
for Tariff Approval.)	
In the Matter of the Application of)	
Ohio Power Company for Approval)	Case No. 20-587-EL-AAM
to Change Accounting Methods.)	

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DOUGLAS R. BUCK ON BEHALF OF OHIO POWER COMPANY

Management Policies, Practices & Organizations

Operating Income

Rate Base

Allocations

Rate of Return

X Rates and Tariffs

Other

Filed: June 15th, 2020

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DOUGLAS R. BUCK ON BEHALF OF OHIO POWER COMPANY

1 I. PERSONAL DATA

2 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

A. My name is Douglas R. Buck. My business address is 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus,
Ohio 43215.

5 Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND WHAT IS YOUR POSITION?

A. I am employed by the American Electric Power Service Corporation ("AEPSC") as a
Staff Regulatory Consultant in the Regulated Pricing and Analysis group of the
Regulatory Services Department. AEPSC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of American
Electric Power Company, Inc. ("AEP"), provides centralized professional and other
services to subsidiaries of AEP. AEP is the parent company of Ohio Power Company
("Ohio Power" or "Company").

12 Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL AND 13 PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND?

A. I received my Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1985 from
Valparaiso University and am a Registered Professional Engineer ("PE") in Ohio. I
received my Master of Business Administration Degree in 1993 from Northern Illinois
University. I began my career with AEP in 1997 as a Financial Analyst, Financial
Forecasting group, in the Corporate Planning and Budgeting Department. In 2000, I
became a Financial Analyst Coordinator, Resource Planning and Operational Analysis

group, also in the Corporate Planning and Budgeting Department. In 2006, I became the
Director of Enterprise Risk Management in the Risk and Strategic Initiatives Department.
From 2010 to the present I have held various positions in the Regulatory Services
Department. Prior to joining AEP, I worked for approximately 9 years in various
engineering departments and the Strategic Analysis Department of Commonwealth
Edison (now Exelon) in Chicago, Illinois.

7 Q. WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS STAFF REGULATORY 8 CONSULTANT?

9 A. My responsibilities include preparation of cost-of-service studies, rate design, and tariff
10 provisions for AEP operating companies, as well as other projects related to regulatory
11 issues and proceedings, individual customer requests, and general rate matters.

12 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TESTIMONY IN ANY REGULATORY

13 **PROCEEDINGS**?

A. Yes. I have sponsored testimony before the Virginia State Corporation Commission, the
 Public Service Commission of West Virginia, the Tennessee Regulatory Authority, and
 the Public Service Commission of Kentucky.

17 II. <u>PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY</u>

18 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to support and describe the development of the
 Company's class cost-of-service study ("CCOSS"), which allocates the total Ohio retail
 jurisdictional rate base, revenues, and expenses to each rate schedule. The cost allocation
 methodology used in the CCOSS assigns costs among the customer classes in a fair and

1		equitable manner based on principles of cost causation. Customers who cause costs to be	
2		incurred are allocated such costs in the CCOSS.	
3	Q.	WHAT SCHEDULES RELATED TO THE CCOSS ARE YOU SPONSORING?	
4	A.	I am sponsoring or co-sponsoring the following schedules included in the Standard Filing	
5		Requirements for the Company:	
6		• Schedule E-3.1 Customer Charge / Minimum Bill Rationale which includes	
7		only the customer component of the CCOSS, and	
8		Schedule E-3.2 Class Cost-of-Service Study	
9	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE THESE SCHEDULES.	
10	A.	Schedule E-3.1 is the customer component only of the CCOSS for test year ended	
11		November 30, 2020 (one-month actual and eleven-month forecast). Schedule E-3.2 is the	
12		CCOSS for test year ended November 30, 2020 (one-month actual and eleven-month	
13		forecast).	
14	Q.	WHAT IS THE TEST PERIOD TO PREPARE THE CCOSS IN THIS	
15		PROCEEDING?	
16	A.	The test period used to develop the CCOSS in this proceeding is the twelve month period	
17		ending November 30, 2020 (one month actuals and eleven months forecast data).	
18		Allocation factors are based on the twelve month period ending December 31, 2019	
19		(twelve months actual data).	

1

III. OVERVIEW OF CLASS COST-OF-SERVICE STUDIES

2

Q.

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE GENERAL PURPOSE OF A CCOSS.

3 Cost studies are basic analytical tools used in traditional utility rate design utilized to A. determine the revenue requirement for the services offered by the utility and to determine 4 5 the costs that different classes of customers impose on the utility system. A CCOSS calculates the total functional costs the Company incurs in serving each retail rate class as 6 7 well as the rate of return on rate base earned from each class during the test year. This is 8 accomplished by classifying and allocating the jurisdictional and functionalized costs of 9 serving Ohio's retail customers to the various rate classes. When a CCOSS study is 10 completed and all of the costs are allocated to the customer classes, the Company is able 11 to establish rates based on the costs to serve each customer class. A copy of the CCOSS 12 prepared for this case is included as Schedule E-3.2.

13 Q. WHAT DATA SOURCE WAS USED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 14 CCOSS?

A. The Company's jurisdictional allocation of distribution rate base, revenue, and expenses
was prepared and is sponsored by Company witness Caudill as described in detail in her
testimony. This jurisdictional information has already been identified/functionalized as
related to the distribution function. Ohio Power's retail jurisdictional distribution rate
base, revenue, and expense components are classified and allocated to the various
customer classes, through the CCOSS, using various allocators derived from historic
accounting records and Company data.

1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CLASSIFICATION PROCESS.

- A. The classification process separates the functionalized costs, provided in the
 jurisdictional cost-of-service study, into the classifications of:
- 4 1) Demand costs costs based on the demand (kW) imposed by the customer, or
- 5 2) Customer costs costs directly related to the number of customers served.
- 6 The cost classifications used in the Company's cost-of-service studies include the
 7 following:

FUNCTION	CLASSIFICATION	
Distribution	Demand, Customer	
Customer Service	Customer	

8 Distribution system costs are affected by either the peak demand imposed on the 9 distribution facilities or by the number of customers served. Demand-related distribution 10 costs reflect the size of the class of customer's electrical load served, while customer-11 related distribution costs are allocated on the number of customers receiving the service. 12 These are fixed costs which are incurred regardless of the level of energy sales. An 13 example of a demand-related cost is the investment in distribution facilities, such as 14 distribution poles and lines.

15 Customer service costs are primarily related to the number of customers. These 16 are fixed costs which are incurred regardless of the level of energy sales. Meter and 17 customer service costs are examples of costs whose levels are fixed by the number of 18 customers.

19The classification process provides a basis on which to allocate different20categories of costs (demand or customer) to the Company's classes.

1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION PROCESS.

A. The final step is to allocate the classified costs among the classes of customers based on
how the costs are incurred for each class. Allocation factors are used to assign these
costs to the various customer classes. Customer classes are determined and grouped
according to the nature of service provided, voltage level, and the load usage
characteristics. In general, the five principal customer classes are residential,
commercial, industrial, outdoor lighting, and street lighting.

8 The allocation process involves dividing the functionalized and classified costs 9 among the customer classes. This process involves multiplying these costs by allocation 10 factors, which results in costs assigned to each customer class. The objective in this 11 process is to determine a reasonable, appropriate, and understandable method to assign 12 the costs. Some costs are directly assignable to a single class, or even a single customer. For instance, the equipment used wholly for public street and highway lighting are 13 directly assigned to the street lighting class. Most costs, however, are attributable to 14 15 more than one customer class. These are joint costs that are allocated to customers by an 16 allocation methodology that is based on the manner in which the costs are caused by the 17 different customers. The joint costs are incurred based on the capacity demanded or the 18 number of customers.

19 The classification process leads to an allocation methodology. For example, costs 20 associated with meters will vary with the number of customers as well as the type of 21 meter installed. A weighted allocation factor is developed by multiplying the number of 22 customers in each class by the respective costs of the different types of meters within the 23 class. Therefore, an allocation factor is developed that allocates the costs associated with

customer's meters to the classes based on a weighted average of the various meter costs
 and number of customers by class.

When this process is completed and all of the costs are allocated to the customer classes, the result is a fully allocated cost-of-service study that establishes cost responsibility, by class, and the test year rate of return earned from each class, making it possible to determine the rates each class of customer should pay based on costs that are just and reasonable.

8

9

O.

ALLOCATION OF COSTS TO THE CUSTOMERS IS APPROPRIATE?

WHAT CRITERIA MUST BE ESTABLISHED TO ENSURE THAT THE

- 10 A. Generally, the following criteria should be used to determine the appropriateness of an11 allocation methodology:
- The method should cause customers who benefit from the use of the system to
 bear appropriate cost responsibility for the system.
- The method should reflect the planning and operating characteristics of the
 utility's system.
- The method should recognize customer class characteristics such as peak demand on the system, diversity characteristics, number of customers, etc.
- The method should produce stable results on a year-to-year basis.

19 Q. DOES THE ALLOCATION METHOD EMPLOYED BY THE COMPANY MEET

- 20 THESE OBJECTIVES?
- A. Yes, it does. The allocation methodology utilized in the Company's CCOSS was chosen
 while considering each of the criteria listed above. The results of the cost-of-service

study can be relied upon to determine the appropriate revenue requirement for the
 Company's customer classes.

3 Q. HOW DOES THE CCOSS COMBINE THE CURRENT TARIFF SCHEDULES

4 **INTO THOSE BEING PROPOSED?**

5 A. As described by Company witness Moore, the current tariffs are combined as follows:

Proposed Tariff Schedule	Proposed Tariff Schedule Current Tariff Schedule		dule
RS: Residential	RS	RR	RR-1
GS: Non-Demand Metered	GS-1	EHS	SS
GS: Demand Metered - SEC	GS-2 SEC	GS-3 SEC	EHG
GS: Demand Metered - PRI	GS-2 PRI	GS-3 PRI	GS-4 PRI
	GS-2 SUB	GS-3 SUB	GS-4 SUB
GS: Demand Metered - SUB/TRAN	GS-2 TRAN	GS-3 TRAN	GS-4 TRAN
OL: Outdoor Lighting	OL		
SL: Street Lighting	SL		

6 IV. ALLOCATION OF RATE BASE COMPONENTS

7 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION OF ELECTRIC PLANT IN SERVICE.

8 A. From the jurisdictional cost-of-service study, as prepared by Company witness Caudill,
 9 Electric Plant in Service is identified and functionalized into distribution, intangible and
 10 general plant.

11 Q. HOW DID THE COMPANY ALLOCATE PRIMARY DISTRIBUTION PLANT?

A. The Company, for class allocation purposes, used the summer and winter peak method to assign customer costs to reflect two seasonal peaks (or 6 CP). The 6 CP distribution demand allocation factor assigns costs to the retail classes based on their average contribution to Ohio Power's six monthly coincident peaks ("CPs") on the primary distribution facilities (DIST_CPD). The six months that were used to derive the primary distribution demand allocation factors were the three summer months of June, July, August and the three winter months of December, January and February for the test period ended November 30, 2020. This method is consistent with the method the Company used in Case No. 11- 351-EL-AIR, et al., the Company's most recent rate case.

4

Q. HOW WERE THE DISTRIBUTION PLANT ACCOUNTS ALLOCATED?

5 A. Distribution plant is classified as demand-related or customer-related, and allocated to the 6 customer classes using factors based on demand levels or number of customers. Distribution plant Accounts 360 through 368 were classified solely as demand-related for 7 8 class allocation purposes. Accounts 360 (Land and Land Rights), 361 (Structures and 9 Improvement), 362 (Station Equipment), and 363 (Storage Battery Equipment) were 10 allocated to the distribution customer classes based on their contributions to the average 11 of the Company's six monthly peak demands on the primary distribution system 12 (DIST_CPD) as previously discussed.

Accounts 364 through 367, Poles, Towers & Fixtures, Overhead lines, and 13 14 Underground Conduit and Lines, were split into primary and secondary voltage functions based upon information contained in the Company's distribution engineering records and 15 expertise of the Company's distribution engineers. The primary portions of Accounts 16 17 364 through 367 were allocated using the six monthly coincident peaks on the primary 18 distribution facilities (DIST_CPD). The secondary component of Accounts 364 through 19 367 were allocated based on a combination of each class's 12-month maximum demand 20 and the summation of individual customers' annual maximum demands in each class 21 served from those facilities (DIST_POLES, DIST_OHLINES and DIST_UGLINES). This process reflects the fact that some secondary facilities serve only one customer, 22 23 while others serve two or more customers.

1 Account 368, Transformers, was split into primary and secondary voltage 2 functions based upon information contained in the Company's distribution engineering records to determine the functional use of the equipment. The primary portion of 3 Account 368 was allocated using the DIST_CPD allocator. The secondary portion was 4 5 allocated using the appropriate secondary voltage demand allocation factor, which is 6 based on a combination of each class' 12-month maximum demand and the summation of 7 individual customers' annual maximum demands (DIST_TRANSF). 8 Account 369, Services, was classified as customer-related and was allocated using 9 the average number of secondary customers served (DIST SERV). 10 Account 370, Meters, was allocated using the average number of customers weighted by a factor which considers the cost differential of various metering 11 12 installations (DIST_METERS). 13 Account 371, Install on Customer Premises, and Account 372, Leased Property on 14 Customer Premises, were directly assigned to the outdoor lighting class (DIST_OL). 15 Account 373, Street Lighting, was directly assigned to the street lighting class 16 (DIST SL). 17 **Q**. HAS THE COMPANY MADE THE APPROPRIATE CLASSIFICATION OF 18 **DISTRIBUTION PLANT?** 19 Yes. The method of classification of services and meters as customer-related – and A. 20 primary and secondary poles, lines, and transformers as demand-related is a method that 21 has been adopted in cases before this and other Commissions. This classification 22 recognizes the standard engineering practice to plan the distribution facilities to meet the 23 maximum expected demand on the system, not necessarily the number of customers

1 being served by the facilities. It is more appropriate to classify services and meters as 2 customer-related since a single service is required to serve each customer. For other 3 distribution facilities, a diversified mix of commercial and residential customers will be served from those facilities. It is the customers' demand placed on those facilities that 4 5 drives the size and cost of the distribution facilities, not the absolute number of customers 6 served from those facilities. The benefit of the Company's approach in classifying 7 distribution plant is that each customer class is being allocated its equitable share of 8 distribution facilities based on contributions to peak demand associated with Accounts 9 360-368, and based on the number of customers with Accounts 369-373.

10 11

Q. HOW WAS THE GENERAL AND INTANGIBLE PORTION OF ELECTRIC

PLANT CLASSIFIED AND ALLOCATED?

A. General and intangible plant investment reflects a composite demand and customer classification and was classified as labor-related. It was allocated to the customer classes on the basis of a payroll labor allocator (LABOR_M), constructed by first allocating the functional components of operation and maintenance ("O&M") expense by the applicable class demand and customer allocation factors, and then summing the allocated components by class to create a set of labor expense ratios.

18 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION OF ACCUMULATED PROVISION 19 FOR DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION.

A. The functionalized components of Accumulated Provision for Depreciation and
 Amortization were obtained from the Jurisdictional study and classified and allocated
 based upon the allocation of their corresponding functional Electric Plant in Service costs
 excluding land and land rights.

1 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION OF WORKING CAPITAL.

A. The components of distribution working capital allowance include materials & supplies
and other prepayments (insurance, etc.). Materials & supplies were allocated based on
distribution Electric Plant in Service (RB_GUP_EPIS_D); and prepayments were
allocated using factors developed from gross utility plant relationships (RB_GUP).

6

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION OF RATE BASE OFFSETS.

A. Customer Deposits were assigned based on an analysis of accounting records;
prepayment pension expenses were allocated based on O&M labor; and Customer
Advances, Deferred Taxes and Deferred Investment Tax Credits were allocated based on
distribution Electric Plant in Service.

11 V. ALLOCATION OF REVENUES, O&M, AND A&G EXPENSES

12 Q. HOW WERE REVENUES DEVELOPED FOR EACH CLASS?

- 13 A. Test year retail sales revenues were directly assigned to each class.
- Forfeited discounts and miscellaneous service revenues were directly assigned
 based on an analysis of accounting records.
- 16 The functional components of rent from electric property and other electric revenue 17 were allocated to classes based on distribution Electric Plant in Service.

18 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION OF DISTRIBUTION O&M AMONG

- 19 THE VARIOUS CUSTOMER CLASSES.
- A. Distribution O&M expenses were functionalized and classified according to the
 associated distribution plant accounts and allocated accordingly.

1	Accounts 581, Load Dispatching operation expense and 582, Station Equipment
2	operation expense, were allocated using the primary distribution demand allocation factor
3	(DIST_CPD).
4	Account 583, Overhead Lines operation expense, was allocated based upon the
5	same allocation used for plant Account 365, Overhead Lines.
6	Account 584, Underground Lines operation expense, was allocated based upon
7	the same allocation used for plant Accounts 366, Underground Conduit, and 367
8	Underground Lines.
9	Account 585, Street Lighting operation expense, was classified as customer-
10	related and directly assigned to the street lighting class.
11	Account 586, Meters operation expense, was classified as customer-related and
12	allocated in the same manner as 370, Meters.
13	Account 587, Customer Installations operation expense, was classified as
14	customer-related and allocated based on primary customers (DIST_PCUST).
15	Accounts 588, Miscellaneous Distribution operation expense, and 589, Rents
16	operation expense, were allocated on total distribution plant and classified accordingly.
17	Account 580, Supervision & Engineering operation expense, was classified as
18	demand-related and customer-related and allocated using the allocated subtotal of
19	allocated expense Accounts 581 through 589.
20	Accounts 591, Structures maintenance expense, and 592, Station Equipment
21	maintenance expense, were classified as demand-related and allocated on the primary
22	distribution demand allocation factor (DIST_CPD).

1		Accounts 593, Overhead Lines maintenance expense, 594, Underground Lines
2		maintenance expense, and 595, Line Transformers maintenance expense, were
3		functionalized and classified according to the associated distribution plant accounts and
4		allocated accordingly.
5		Account 596, Street Lighting maintenance expense, was classified as customer-
6		related and directly assigned to the street lighting class.
7		Account 597, Meters maintenance expense, was classified as customer-related
8		and allocated in the same manner as meter plant.
9		Account 598, Miscellaneous Distribution maintenance expense, was classified as
10		customer-related and directly assigned to the outdoor lighting class.
11		Account 590, Supervision & Engineering maintenance expense, was classified
12		and allocated based on the sum of the allocated O&M expense Accounts 591 through
13		598.
13 14	Q.	598. Please explain how customer accounts (accounts 901-905),
	Q.	
14	Q.	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905),
14 15	Q. A.	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905), CUSTOMER SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND SALES EXPENSE
14 15 16	-	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905), CUSTOMER SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND SALES EXPENSE (ACCOUNTS 907-916) WERE ALLOCATED?
14 15 16 17	-	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905),CUSTOMER SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND SALES EXPENSE(ACCOUNTS 907-916) WERE ALLOCATED?Account 902, Meter Reading expense, was allocated to those classes with meter
14 15 16 17 18	-	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905), CUSTOMER SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND SALES EXPENSE (ACCOUNTS 907-916) WERE ALLOCATED? Account 902, Meter Reading expense, was allocated to those classes with meter installations based upon an average number of customers weighted to reflect differences
14 15 16 17 18 19	-	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905), CUSTOMER SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND SALES EXPENSE (ACCOUNTS 907-916) WERE ALLOCATED? Account 902, Meter Reading expense, was allocated to those classes with meter installations based upon an average number of customers weighted to reflect differences in meter reading requirements.
 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 	-	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905), CUSTOMER SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND SALES EXPENSE (ACCOUNTS 907-916) WERE ALLOCATED? Account 902, Meter Reading expense, was allocated to those classes with meter installations based upon an average number of customers weighted to reflect differences in meter reading requirements. Account 903, Customer Records expense, was divided into two categories, costs
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	-	PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS (ACCOUNTS 901-905), CUSTOMER SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND SALES EXPENSE (ACCOUNTS 907-916) WERE ALLOCATED? Account 902, Meter Reading expense, was allocated to those classes with meter installations based upon an average number of customers weighted to reflect differences in meter reading requirements. Account 903, Customer Records expense, was divided into two categories, costs related to the customer call center and other expenses. Call center costs were first

actual number of calls received by the call center. The remaining call center costs were
 allocated among the other tariffs (excluding outdoor lighting) based on the number of
 customers in those classes. The other records and collections expenses were allocated to
 all classes based on the number of customers.

5 Account 904, Uncollectible Accounts expense, which is primarily associated with 6 losses related to uncollected rent revenues, was allocated based on an allocated total of 7 rents from non-associated companies and rent from electric property.

8 Accounts 901, Supervision & Engineering expense, and 905, Miscellaneous 9 Customer Accounts expense, were allocated based on the sum of the allocated accounts 10 902, 903, and 904.

Factoring Expense, Account 426, and Interest on Customer Deposits, Account 431, were also shown as Customer Accounts Expense as those costs are directly related to customer account activities. The cost associated with Factoring Expense was allocated using current sales revenue. The cost associated with Interest on Customer Deposits was allocated based on customer deposits held by customer class. All customer accounting expenses were classified as customer-related.

17 Costs associated with Customer Service and Information and Sales Expense, 18 Accounts 907-916, were allocated using the allocated total of Customer Accounts (901-19 905), because of the general nature of these costs, which include supervision, labor and 20 materials, support efforts to provide services to all customer classes. Customer 21 Assistance Expense related to DSM was directly assigned to the residential class, and 22 allocated using current sales revenue to the GS classes. All customer accounting, 23 customer services and sales expense accounts were classified as customer-related.

1Q.PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND2GENERAL (A&G) EXPENSE.

A. Regulatory expense was allocated based on class revenue levels. Property insurance and
 associated business development expense were allocated based on the distribution plant
 allocation factor. All other A&G expenses were functionalized, classified and allocated
 based on the allocated labor (LABOR_M) allocation factor.

7 VI. <u>ALLOCATION OF DEPRECIATION AND TAXES</u>

8 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ALLOCATION OF DEPRECIATION AND
9 AMORTIZATION EXPENSE.

10 A. The functionalized components of depreciation and amortization expense were allocated
11 using the corresponding plant items excluding land and land rights.

12 Q. HOW WERE TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME TAXES ALLOCATED TO EACH 13 CLASS?

- A. Taxes other than income taxes were allocated according to the basis for each tax. Payroll
 taxes are labor related and therefore allocated using the allocated labor (LABOR_M)
 allocation factor. Taxes associated with property and miscellaneous taxes were allocated
 based on the internally derived allocated class net plant ratios.
- 18 Regulatory fees, franchise taxes, and commercial activity taxes were allocated
 19 using the sales revenue allocation factor.

20 Q. HOW WERE INCOME TAXES ASSIGNED TO THE RETAIL CLASSES?

21 A. Interest expense was calculated using a formula to synchronize with allocated rate base.

22 State and Current Federal Income Taxes were computed by class using the applicable tax

23 rates. Individual Schedule M items, Deferred Federal Income Taxes, and Deferred

Investment Tax Credits were allocated based on corresponding allocated costs to which
 the items relate.

3 VII. <u>EARNED RETURNS</u>

4 Q. WHAT IS THE RESULTING GOING-LEVEL RATES OF RETURN FOR EACH 5 CLASS WITHOUT RATE RELIEF?

A. The resulting going-level earned distribution rates of return (ROR) during the test year
prior to the rate relief requested in this case, for each customer class as shown in the class
cost-of-service study, are presented in the table below. The going-level return is
calculated from current income and rate base.

CLASS	Going- Level ROR
RS: Residential	-2.11 %
GS: Non-Demand Metered	0.19 %
GS: Demand Metered - SEC	-2.07 %
GS: Demand Metered - PRI	-3.28 %
GS: Demand Metered - SUB/TRAN	-18.12 %
OL: Outdoor Lighting	2.73 %
SL: Street Lighting	5.55 %
Total	-2.15 %

Class Going-Level Rates of Return

10 Q. HOW ARE THESE RATES OF RETURN USED IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. The going-level rates of return for each class form the basis for the allocation of the
 revenue increase required for each class. This information was provided to Company

Witness Roush to assist in his determination of the allocation of the requested rate
 increase by class and subsequently to design proposed rates.

3 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY?

4 A. Yes.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

In accordance with Rule 4901-1-05, Ohio Administrative Code, the PUCO's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document upon the following parties. In addition, I hereby certify that a service copy of the foregoing *Direct Testimony of Douglas R*. *Buck* was sent by, or on behalf of, the undersigned counsel to the following parties of record this 15th day of June 2020, via electronic transmission.

/s/ Steven T. Nourse

Steven T. Nourse

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Summary: Testimony -Direct Testimony of Douglas R. Buck on Behalf of Ohio Power Company electronically filed by Mr. Steven T Nourse on behalf of Ohio Power Company