

# THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE UNCOLLECTIBLE  
EXPENSE RIDER OF DUKE ENERGY OHIO,  
INC.

CASE NO. 20-318-GA-UEX

## FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on July 15, 2020

### I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. to decrease its uncollectible expense rider rate.

### II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is a natural gas company as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} On December 21, 2005, the Commission authorized Duke to establish an uncollectible expense (UEX) rider, which was initially set at zero. *In re Cincinnati Gas & Electric Co.*, Case No. 05-732-EL-MER, et al., Finding and Order (Dec. 21, 2005).

{¶ 4} On July 25, 2018, the Commission approved Duke's current UEX rider rate of \$0.07778 per thousand cubic feet (Mcf). The Commission also approved Duke's proposed changes to its tariff language. *In re Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 18-318-GA-UEX, Finding and Order (July 25, 2018.)

{¶ 5} On May 29, 2020, in the above-captioned case, Duke filed an application to decrease its UEX rider rate to \$0.05064 per Mcf, as summarized below:

Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Proposed Decrease
\$0.07778 per Mcf	\$0.05064 per Mcf	\$0.02714 per Mcf

{¶ 6} On June 25, 2020, Staff filed its review and recommendation regarding Duke's application. Staff reviewed Duke's uncollectible tracker balance record, its projected bad debt expenses and associated sales volume projections, its UEX rider rate calculation, and proposed tariff sheet. Staff also noted that a prudence review of Duke's proposed UEX rider rate, if approved, will occur in a future UEX audit proceeding. Staff concluded that Duke calculated its UEX rider correctly and recommends that its proposed rate of \$0.05064 per Mcf be approved.

{¶ 7} The Commission has reviewed the application, as well as Staff's review and recommendation, and finds that the proposed adjustment to Duke's UEX rider is reasonable, is in the public interest, and should be approved. Accordingly, the Commission finds that Duke should be authorized to include the revised UEX rider rate in its tariff, which contains the terms, conditions, and rates that Duke applies to the gas service it provides to consumers.

### III. ORDER

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That Duke's application be approved and Duke be authorized to decrease the rate for its UEX rider to \$0.05064 per Mcf. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That Duke be authorized to file tariffs, in final form, consistent with this Finding and Order. Duke shall file one copy in this case docket and one copy in its TRF docket. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the effective date of the new tariffs shall be a date not earlier than the date upon which the final tariff pages are filed with the Commission. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That nothing in this Finding and Order shall be binding upon this Commission in any future proceeding or investigation involving the justness or reasonableness of any rate, charge, rule, or regulation. It is, further,

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

**COMMISSIONERS:**

*Approving:*

Sam Randazzo, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

Dennis P. Deters

DMH/kck

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Summary: Finding & Order approving the application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. to decrease its uncollectible expense rider rate. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E Fischer on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio