



# Public Utilities Commission

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## Commissioners

M. Beth Trombold  
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June 23, 2021

Docketing Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: *In the Matter of the Application of Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Ohio for Approval of an Adjustment to its Uncollectible Expense Rider Rate, Case No. 21-0320-GA-UEX.*

Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find the Staff's Review and Recommendations regarding the application filed by the Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio Inc. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Ohio, to update its Gas Uncollectible Expense Rider, in Case No. 21-0320-GA-UEX.

Respectfully submitted,

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David Lipthrott  
Chief, Accounting and Finance Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

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Adam Burns  
Accounting and Finance Division  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Enclosure  
cc: Parties of Record

**Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc.**  
**Case No. 21-0320-GA-UEx**

**OVERVIEW**

In Case No. 03-1127-GA-UNC, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) authorized the concept of an uncollectible accounts expense recovery mechanism for five natural gas companies. The mechanism approved allows for recovery of actual bad/uncollectible debt through a rider, rather than through base rates. Subsequently, in Case No. 03-2571-GA-ATA, the Commission authorized Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio, Inc., d/b/a/ CenterPoint Energy Ohio (VEDO or Company) to establish an uncollectible expense rider recovery mechanism, initially set at \$0.00382 per Mcf.

Since that time, VEDO has filed annual updates to adjust its rider rate and the Commission has authorized such revisions. The most recent history of VEDO's uncollectible expense rider rate is as follows:

August 2016 - July 2017	\$0.0470 per Mcf
August 2017 - August 2018	\$0.0397 per Mcf
September 2018 - August 2019	\$0.0569 per Mcf
September 2019 – June 2020	\$0.0703 per Mcf
July 2020 – Current	\$0.0785 per Mcf

In its application, filed on May 28, 2021, VEDO proposes to modify its existing uncollectible expense rider rate of \$0.0785 per Mcf to \$0.0276 per Mcf, a decrease of \$0.0509 per Mcf. Staff has reviewed VEDO's application and makes its findings and recommendations herein.

**STAFF REVIEW**

Staff's review of VEDO's Application included examination of its Uncollectible Expense Rider Annual Balance Reconciliation (Attachment 1), its Uncollectible Expense Rider Calculation (Attachment 2), its Write-Off and Collection Summary (Attachment 3), and its Red-Lined and Proposed Tariff Sheets (Attachment 4). Staff notes that a prudence review of this rate, if approved, will occur in a future uncollectible expense audit proceeding.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff completed its review of VEDO's UEX from January 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 and finds that the Company appropriately calculated the rider rate in the pending application and recommends that the proposed rate of \$0.0276 per Mcf be approved.

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**6/23/2021 3:27:25 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 21-0320-GA-UEx**

Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation regarding the application filed by the Vectren Energy Delivery of Ohio Inc. d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Ohio, to update its Gas Uncollectible Expense Rider electronically filed by Zee Molter on behalf of PUCO Staff