

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of)
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. to Adjust its)
Interim, Emergency and Temporary) Case No. 17- 418 - GA-PIP
Percentage of Income Payment Plan)
Rider.)

**APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC.**

Pursuant to R.C. 4904.18, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., (Duke Energy Ohio) hereby submits its annual Interim, Emergency and Temporary Percentage of Income Payment Plan Rider Report (“Rider PIPP”) and also requests approval to adjust the rate for its Rider PIPP.

Duke Energy Ohio is an Ohio corporation engaged in the business of supplying natural gas to approximately 432,000 customers in southwestern Ohio, all of whom, except Interruptible Transportation customers, will be affected by this Application, and is a public utility as defined by R.C. 4905.02 and 4905.03. Duke Energy Ohio serves incorporated communities and unincorporated territory within its entire service area, which includes all or parts of Adams, Brown, Butler, Clinton, Clermont, Hamilton, Montgomery, and Warren Counties in Ohio.

In support of its Application, Duke Energy Ohio states as follows:

Paragraph 51 of the Finding and Order in Case No. 08-1229-GA-COI, dated December 14, 2011, requires each natural gas company to file an annual PIPP status report every year. The annual report is to include the level of PIPP recoveries to write off and the rate if applicable. Attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is Duke Energy Ohio’s annual PIPP Report.

Duke Energy Ohio's current gas PIPP rider became effective August 30, 2016, as a result of Case No. 16-0418-GA-PIP. This rate was designed to recover a deferred gas PIPP customer

account balance that existed as of March 31, 2016. It was also designed to recover an ongoing amount of arrears that were expected to occur during each succeeding twelve-month period. The proposed rate is designed to recover the deferred gas PIPP customer balance that existed as of March 31, 2017 over a twelve month period and an amount of PIPP customer arrears Duke Energy Ohio expects to continue to incur in each succeeding twelve-month period. The method of computing the proposed rider for this proceeding is consistent with that approved in Case No.16-0418-GA-PIP. The schedule supporting the proposed gas rider is attached as Exhibit 2.

Duke Energy Ohio's current Rider PIPP rate is \$0.011974 per CCF. The proposed Rider PIPP rate is \$0.005096 per CCF.

The Commission has continued to recognize that an emergency, as described by 4909.16, O.R.C., exists, and that in response to that emergency, PIPP should continue to be available to residential customers as contained within the Stipulation and Recommendation in Case No. 88-1115-GE-PIP, approved and adopted by the Commission on December 2, 1993. The Stipulation and Recommendation provides for the adjustment of PIPP riders upon request of the affected utility.

In direct testimony of the Commission Staff accepted by the Finding and Order dated December 2, 1993, a procedure for the implementation of revised PIPP rates essentially requires a utility to implement its new rate on the forty-sixth day after its application, absent action by the Commission. Duke Energy Ohio hereby requests that the proposed rate offered by this application, absent action by the Commission, becomes effective on the forty-sixth day after the application is filed.

WHEREFORE, Duke Energy Ohio respectfully requests that the Commission Approve the proposed Interim Emergency and Temporary Percentage of Income Payment Plan Rider charge as filed herein as Exhibit 1 to become effective coincident with the forty-sixth day after the application is filed.

Respectfully submitted,

Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

/s/ Elizabeth H. Watts
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