FILE

#### **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

PUCO

In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio for Approval of a Market Rate Offer to Conduct a Competitive Bidding Process for Standard Service Offer Electric Generation Supply, Accounting Modifications and Tariffs for Generation Service.

Case No. 10-2586-EL-SSO

## DIRECT TESTIMONY OF TAMARA S. TURKENTON

Accounting and Electricity Division
Utilities Department
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Staff	Exhibit	

1	1.	Q.	Please state your name and business address.
2		A.	My name is Tamara S. Turkenton. My business address is 180 East Broad
3			Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
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5	2.	Q.	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
6		A.	I am employed by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio as Chief of the
7			Accounting and Electricity Division of the Utilities Department.
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9	3.	Q.	Please briefly summarize your educational background and work
10			experience.
11		A.	I have earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance and Business
12			Pre-Law (BBA) from Ohio University. I have also earned a Master of Busi-
13			ness Administration (MBA) degree from Capital University and a Master of
14			Tax Laws (MT) degree from Capital Law School.
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16			I have been employed by the Commission since July 1994 involved in the
17			Electric Fuel Component (EFC) section, the Telecommunications section, the
18			Competitive Retail Electric Service (CRES) section working on electric
19			deregulation and SB 3, and the Rates & Tariffs section working on electric
20			utility rates, tariffs, and rules. Most recently, I moved to the Accounting and
21			Electricity Division working on many aspects of SB 221.

1 4	l. Q	. Have	you testified in	prior	proceedings	before	the (	Commission'	?
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A. Yes.

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- 5. Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding with respect to Duke Energy Ohio's (Duke) MRO application?
- My testimony focuses on aspects of Duke's request for proposed Fuel and 6 Reserve Capacity Reconciliation Rider (Rider RECON), Uncollectible 7 Expense Generation Rider (Rider UE-GEN), Supplier Cost Reconciliation 8 9 Rider (Rider SCR), Fuel and Purchased Power Rider (Rider FPP), Environmental Investment Rider (Rider EIR), Alternative Energy Recovery Rider 10 (Rider AERR), Base Transmission Rider (Rider BTR) and Market Rate 11 Offer, Regional Transmission Organization Tracker, and Generation Service 12 13 Riders respectively (Riders MRO, RTO, GEN).

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## **RIDER RECON**

- 6. Q. Can you briefly describe the purpose and scope of Rider RECON?
- A. Rider RECON proposes to recover the over or under recovery balances remaining as of December 31, 2011 pertaining to Rider PTC-FPP and Rider SRA-SRT under the current Electric Security Plan (ESP). Duke's application states that Rider RECON will be updated quarterly during the MRO period and will terminate when the remaining over and under recovery balances are

1	collected from customers. Duke proposes in its MRO application that Rider
2	RECON be non-bypassable. <sup>2</sup>
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## 7. Q. Did you review the tariff provided in Duke's MRO application pertaining to Rider RECON?

A. Yes. As indicated in the proposed tariff<sup>3</sup> and in Staff Interrogatory responses,

Duke stated that "because of the manner in which rates for Rider PTC-FPP

and Rider SRA-SRT are set, the 'projected' balances of under or over recovery at December 31, 2011, are \$0. The filing to set rates for that quarter would assume that all costs includable in either rider, including prior period reconciliation adjustments are recovered over the period of the quarter."

Duke plans to make a filing no later than April 1, 2012 to set the amount to be charged or credited to customers through Rider RECON.<sup>5</sup>

Direct Testimony of James E. Ziolkowski, Attachment JEZ-2, at 145.

<sup>2</sup> Id. at 11, lines 2-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Id., Attachment JEZ-2, at 145.

<sup>4</sup> Response to Staff-Interrogatory DR-01-001 dated December 22, 2010.

Direct Testimony of William Don Wathen Jr. at 28, lines 1-3.

### 8. Q. Do you have any recommendations regarding Rider RECON?

During Staff discovery, I was unable to review any actual forecasted 2011 Rider RECON costs on which to form an opinion. Duke stated the goal for any over or under balances at December 31, 2011 was \$0, but it is highly likely, in Staff's opinion, that some balance (whether under or over) will need to be included in Rider RECON in 2012. Duke committed to make an application no later than April 1, 2012 to delineate any over or under balance. This April 1, 2012 application will be the vehicle for Staff to review December 31, 2011 balances of Rider PTC-FPP and SRA-SRT and their appropriateness for inclusion into Rider RECON.

Therefore, based on the preceding discussion, Staff recommends that Duke be allowed to create Rider RECON and initially set the Rider at \$0 starting January 1, 2012. However, Rider RECON should be subject to Staff review and Commission approval regarding the reasonableness of the costs for inclusion in Rider RECON.

Furthermore, Staff recommends that the Commission make Rider RECON fully bypassable until collected from customers, rather than non-bypassable as requested in Duke's MRO application. Rider PTC-FPP is bypassable under the current ESP. Rider SRA-SRT is non-bypassable under the current ESP (with certain exceptions for non-residential customers making Rider

SRA-SRT bypassable). Without December 31, 2011 forecasts to review, it is difficult to ascertain the exact makeup of Rider RECON; however, Staff believes that any under or over recovery balances should be attributed to Rider PTC-FPP as it tends to fluctuate more than Rider SRA-SRT from quarter to quarter. Therefore, Rider RECON should be fully bypassable to mirror Rider PTC-FPP's bypassability in the current ESP.

#### RIDER UE-GEN

### 9. Q. Can you briefly describe the purpose of Rider UE-GEN?

My understanding is Rider UE-GEN, as proposed, seeks to recover the cost of bad debt associated with Duke's Standard Service Offer (SSO) service. I reviewed the tariff in the MRO application and Rider UE-GEN seeks to recover incremental generation uncollectible accounts expense above what is in base rates and also seeks to include Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) customer installments not collected through the Universal Service Rider. Per the tariff, the first application Duke will make to the Commission regarding Rider UE-GEN will be the second quarter of 2012 and the Rider UE-GEN charge will be set at \$0 starting January 1, 2011 for both the resi-

Direct Testimony of James E. Ziolkowski, Attachment JEZ-2, at 135.

dential and non-r	esidential c	class. <sup>7</sup> Duke	proposes the	hat Rider	UE-GEN	be a
bypassable rider.8						

### 10. Q. Do you have any recommendations regarding Rider UE-GEN?

A. R.C. 4928.142(D) denotes what adjustments (whether upward or downward adjustments) Duke can request for recovery under a MRO construct. An uncollectible rider for generation is not one of the adjustments specifically listed or contemplated in R.C. 4928.142(D). Therefore under an MRO construct as proposed by Duke, Staff recommends that the Commission not approve Rider UE-GEN in this MRO proceeding.

Due to changes being made to the Ohio Department of Development PIPP programs, if Duke believes they are entitled to recover these PIPP costs; Staff recommends that Duke make a separate application to the Commission to address this specific PIPP uncollectible issue and let the Commission decide the merits of that case in a separate proceeding.

Direct Testimony of James E. Ziolkowski, Attachment JEZ-2, at 135.

*Id.* at 11, lines 12-13.

### RIDER SCR

11.	Q.	Can you	briefly describe	the purpose	of Rider SCR
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A. My understanding is that Rider SCR seeks to make Duke whole due to any differences in the auction price ultimately billed to customers compared to the rate paid by Duke to winning bidders in the MRO auction. Duke also proposes to recover the cost of the CBP plan consultant in Rider SCR and adjust the rider quarterly.

Finally, Duke has proposed to include in Rider SCR net costs incurred by Duke to provide SSO service in the case of default by a CRES supplier and "any other costs" directly attributable to the MRO auction or any interaction with suppliers in regard to the MRO auction. <sup>10</sup> Additionally, Duke has proposed in testimony by Mr. Wathan that any balance of under or over recovery should accrue a carrying charge equal to the electric utility's weighted average cost of long-term debt approved in its most recent retail rate case. <sup>11</sup>

Direct Testimony of William Don Wathan, Jr. at 19, lines 1-2.

<sup>10</sup> Id. at 19, lines 6-8.

<sup>11</sup> Id. at 18, lines 20-22.

## 12. Q. Please describe the mechanics/specifics regarding the bypassability regarding Rider SCR?

A. My understanding from reviewing the proposed tariff is that Duke has proposed a "circuit breaker" concept. Basically, if "the SCR deferral balance is greater than 5% of the actual cost of supplying generation service to the portion of Duke's load served through the SSO, then Rider SCR will be non-bypassable." Conversely, if "the SCR deferral balance is less than 5% of the actual cost of supplying generation service to the portion of Duke's load served through the SSO, then Rider SCR will be bypassable." <sup>13</sup>

### 13. Q. Do you have any recommendations regarding Rider SCR?

Yes. Staff recommends that the Commission approve Rider SCR with some A. modifications. Staff is not in favor of the "circuit breaker" concept and rec-ommends that Rider SCR be fully bypassable during the MRO period to all shopping customers. Staff recognizes the remote situation where the last non-switched customer would have to pay for the all of the costs remaining in Rider SCR. However, Staff would expect that Duke could foresee this type of spiral situation and would be able to assess the risks ahead of time. If this spiral situation occurs or Duke procures 100% of its SSO by auction, Duke

Direct Testimony of James E. Ziolkowski, Attachment JEZ-2, at 128.

*Id*.

could make a separate application to the Commission to address this unlikely scenario, as well as the continued bypassability of Rider SCR.

Duke has proposed to include in Rider SCR "any other costs" directly attributable to the MRO auction or any interaction with suppliers related to the MRO auction. Since many of these costs are unknown at this time, Staff is uncomfortable with supporting undefined costs or any authorization that could amount to a "blank check." Staff recommends that the Commission direct Duke to make a separate filing before the Commission if Duke intends to collect any other undefined costs from customers.

Staff would also note that Rider SCR is being proposed to adjust quarterly with carrying charges. Staff recommends that Duke not be authorized to accrue carrying charges on Rider SCR. The rider adjusts quarterly and the expectation is that credits and/or charges flowing through Rider SCR will be relatively small. Therefore, Staff believes that carrying charges are not warranted on Rider SCR and recommends that the Commission deny the inclusion of such costs in Rider SCR.

Additionally, since it is likely that minimal credits and/or charges will flow through Rider SCR in 2012, Staff believes an annual prudence review of the known costs is not necessary. However, any separate application filed in the

future by Duke for any unknown costs for inclusion in Rider SCR should be subject to Staff audit and review.

#### RIDER FPP and EIR

- 14. Q. What is your understanding regarding Duke's proposal to continue

  Rider FPP and create a placeholder rider for Rider EIR?
- A. In its application, Duke states that "although the MRO Rules include provisions to adjust the ESP component for changes in fuel, purchased power, and environmental costs, the Company is proposing to make no adjustments during the two-year blending period. The Company is willing to forgo these adjustments during the blending period as long as the blending period ends before June 1, 2014." <sup>14</sup>

The application goes on to say that the "tariffs will not be needed if the Commission accepts the Company's proposed two-year blending period and the offer to freeze the ESP component of the blended SSO price for that period."<sup>15</sup>

Direct Testimony of William Don Wathan, Jr. at 13, lines 12-16.

*Id.* at 14, lines 1-4.

## 1 15. Q. What are your recommendations regarding Duke's proposal to continue 2 Rider FPP and create a placeholder rider for Rider EIR?

Staff recommends that Rider FPP not be continued during the blending 3 A. 4 period and the placeholder for Rider EIR not be created at this time. From 5 the MRO application, the earliest these riders would be used is June 1, 2014. Further, as noted in our initial comments, 17 the legality of the pro-6 posed blending period is uncertain. Staff recommends that Duke make a sep-7 arate application to the Commission, if necessary, to continue Rider FPP and 8 9 create Rider EIR based on any final order from this Commission regarding 10 the MRO blending period.

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- 16. Q. If the Commission were to decide to approve the continuation of FPP and the newly created Rider EIR do you have any recommendations for those riders going forward?
  - A. Yes. First for clarification, per the tariff, 18 Rider EIR is proposed as non-bypassable. However, Duke filed an errata sheet 19 acknowledging that Rider EIR was bypassable and that the tariff was in error.

Direct Testimony of William Don Wathan, Jr. at 4-8.

In re Duke Energy Ohio, Case No. 10-2586-EL-SSO (Staff Comments) (December 9, 2010).

Direct Testimony of James E. Ziolkowski, Attachment JEZ-2, at 142.

In re Duke Energy Ohio, Case No. 10-2586-EL-SSO Duke Energy Ohio Errata) (December 9, 2010).

Staff's concern is that per Duke's Application, Rider FPP and Rider EIR are proposed as a quarterly filing, with true-ups. The Application does not include annual prudence reviews as required per Sections 4928.142(D)(1)(2) and (3) of the Revised Code. Either Staff or an outside auditor needs the ability to audit all costs to ensure those costs are warranted and prudent. SB 221 requires that costs shall be prudently incurred in order to obtain recovery. Therefore, any riders (including the type of costs and associated dollar amounts) should be subject to review and audit. If the Commission were to approve the continuation of Rider FPP and the newly created Rider EIR, the prudence of all incurred and recovered costs in those riders through any automatic quarterly adjustments should be reviewed in a separate annual proceeding outside of the MRO application. The process and timeframes for that separate proceeding should be set by order of the Commission.

- 17. Q. Do you have any policy recommendations for the EIR Rider if the Commission were to approve a placeholder rider?
  - A. Yes. Based on the uncertainty surrounding, among other things, new carbon tax legislation or environmental laws, Staff recommends that Duke make a separate filing with the Commission regarding the types of environmental costs that Dukes believes are eligible for inclusion in Rider EIR.

#### RIDER AERR

18.	Q.	Can you briefly	describe the	purpose of newly	proposed Rider	AERR?
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A. Rider AERR enables Duke to recover costs for compliance with SB 221's renewable energy requirements. According to the testimony of Mr. Ziolkowski, Rider AERR will be bypassable and Duke plans to adjust Rider AERR quarterly with true-up provisions.<sup>20</sup>

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## 19. Q. Do you have any procedural recommendations regarding Rider AERR?

Yes. R.C. 4928.142(D)(4) provides that costs shall be prudently incurred in order to obtain recovery. Any costs (including the type of costs and the associated dollar amounts) should be subject to Staff review and audit. The prudence and the nature of the costs incurred and recovered through any automatic quarterly adjustment such as proposed Rider AERR should be reviewed in a separate annual proceeding outside of the automatic recovery provision of Duke's MRO. The process and timeframes for that separate proceeding should be set by order of the Commission.

#### RIDER BTR

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- 2 20. Q. Can you briefly describe the purpose of Rider BTR including the scope of Rider BTR that your testimony addresses?
- A. Proposed Rider BTR is a base transmission rider that covers Network Integrated Transmission Service (NITS) and certain other costs billed to Duke under tariffs approved by the Federal Energy regulatory Commission (FERC).<sup>21</sup> Rider BTR will be updated each year consistent with Rule 4901:1-36, O.A.C. and will be non-bypassable.<sup>22</sup> Mr. Wathan in his testimony indicates that Rider BTR will include "all costs billed from either PJM and/or MISO under FERC-approved tariffs."

# 21. Q. What are your concerns surrounding the costs to be collected through Rider BTR during the MRO period?

A. To my understanding, FERC has not yet approved in tariffs charges relating to MISO exit fees, PJM entrance fees, and RTEP expansion planning costs for Duke to which Mr. Wathan alludes to in testimony.<sup>24</sup> Staff believes that Duke is not asking for explicit approval (recoverability) of these types of expenses in this proceeding. My understanding is that to the extent Duke

Direct Testimony of James E. Zilokowski at 11, lines 15-17.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.* at 11, lines 20-22.

Direct Testimony of William Don Wathan, Jr. at 23, line 22.

*Id.* at 24, lines 5-7.

obtains approval from FERC "in the future," Duke would propose that Rider BTR be the mechanism in which to recover those costs.

Staff points out that MISO exit fees, PJM entrance fees, and RTEP expansion planning costs and other similar type costs are the subject of open proceedings at FERC and the Commission. Since these types of costs have not yet been approved by FERC or the Commission for Duke, Staff recommends that deciding the appropriateness of what specific rider MISO exit fees, PJM entrance fees, and RTEP expansion planning fees are recovered are at best premature. Those decisions should be the subject of another proceeding and not part of this MRO proceeding.

Nonetheless, Staff is amenable to Rider BTR being created on non-bypassable basis to recover the NITS revenue requirements for Duke as calculated pursuant to the FERC-approved tariffs. Staff also recommends that similar to the current TCR, Rider BTR be updated each year consistent with Rule 4901:1-36, O.A.C. and subject to Staff review and audit.

#### RIDER RTO

<ol> <li>Q. Can you briefly describe the purpose of newly proposed !</li> </ol>	I KIOEL KTA	"
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Per the tariff, 25 Rider RTO includes only those costs charged to or imposed 3 upon Duke by FERC-approved tariffs. Costs recoverable under Rider RTO 4 5 include ancillary services but exclude any NITS charges recovered in Rider BTR. Through Staff discovery<sup>26</sup>, eligible ancillary services listed by Duke 6 7 were day-ahead scheduling reserves, regulation, synchronized reserves, black 8 start service, reactive service, and balancing and operating reserve charges. 9 These charges are the same types of charges currently being recovered under 10 Rider TCR.

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## 23. Q. Do you have any procedural recommendations regarding Rider RTO?

A. Yes. Staff recommends that similar to the current TCR, Rider RTO be updated each year consistent with Rule 4901:1-36, O.A.C. and subject to Staff review and audit.

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Direct Testimony of James E. Ziolkowski, Attachment JEZ-2, at 86.

Response to Staff-Interrogatory DR-01-00 (December 22, 2010).

#### **RIDER GEN and MRO**

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- Q. Do you have any recommendations regarding Duke's proposed Rider
   GEN and MRO?
- 4 Yes. These two riders (mainly Rider MRO as Rider GEN is the remaining 5 SSO price not auctioned) are largely a function of the auction(s) that will 6 occur at some interval(s) during the course of the MRO. Staff recommends that it be given the ability to review those rider rates prior to the rates going 7 8 into effect. Duke should submit to Staff at least 20 business days prior to adjusting and/or docketing the tariffs of Rider GEN and Rider MRO all cal-9 10 culations and assumptions on how wholesale auction rates were translated into retail rates. 11

13 25. Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

14 A. Yes. However, I reserve the right to submit supplemental testimony as
15 described herein, as new information subsequently becomes available or in
16 response to positions taken by other parties.

#### PROOF OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing Testimony of Tamara S.

Turkenton submitted on behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, was served by electronic mail, upon the following parties of record, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010.

Steven L. Beeler

Assistant Attorney General

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