

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Duke )  
Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its ) Case No. 12-1685-GA-AIR  
Natural Gas Distribution Rates. )  
)  
)  
In the Matter of the Application of Duke ) Case No. 12-1686-GA-ATA  
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Tariff Approval. )  
)  
)  
In the Matter of the Application of Duke )  
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Approval of an ) Case No. 12-1687-GA-ALT  
Alternative Rate Plan for Gas Distribution )  
Service. )  
)  
)  
In the Matter of the Application of Duke )  
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Approval to Change ) Case No. 12-1688-GA-AAM  
Accounting Methods. )  
)  
)

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., (Applicant or Duke) is a natural gas company as defined by Section 4905.03(A) (5), Revised Code, and a public utility as defined by Section 4905.02, Revised Code, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission pursuant to Sections 4905.04, 4905.05 and 4905.06 Revised Code.
- (2) The notice of intent to file an application for an increase in rates was received on June 7, 2012, pursuant to Section 4909.43(B), Revised Code, and in compliance with Rule 4901-7-01, Appendix A, Chapter I, Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.), of the Commission's Standard Filing Requirements, Sections A and B.
- (3) Duke's application for an increase in rates is governed by and must meet the requirements of Sections 4909.17 to 4909.19, and 4909.42, Revised Code.

- (4) Section 4909.15(C), Revised Code, provides that the utility may propose a test period for determining the revenues and expenses that is any 12-month period beginning not more than six months prior to the date the application is filed and ending not more than nine months subsequent to the date the application is filed. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, the test period shall be that proposed by the utility. This section also requires that the date certain for a natural gas utility be no later than the end of the test period. The Applicant moves that its test period begin January 1, 2012, and end December 31, 2012, and that the date certain be March 31, 2012. The Commission finds that the Applicant's proposed test period and date certain should be approved.
- (5) The Applicant requests a waiver from Rule 4901-7-01, Appendix A, Chapter II, O.A.C., as it relates to requirements regarding the Applicant's electric utility operations. Duke states that information related to its electric utility operations is not relevant to these proceedings. Upon consideration of Duke's request, the Commission finds that the information referenced by Duke is necessary for our review in these cases and, therefore, Duke's waiver request should be denied.
- (6) Duke also requests that a waiver be granted from the filing requirements set forth in Rule 4901-7-01, Appendix A, Chapter II, O.A.C., relating to payroll analysis by employee classification/payroll distribution. Duke states that its financial system has changed, and the distinction between exempt and non-exempt employees is no longer available and cannot be reasonably obtained from information the Applicant currently maintains. Duke commits to providing the payroll analysis of the two employee classifications of union and non-union. The Commission finds that this waiver request is reasonable and should be granted.
- (7) The granting of these waivers does not preclude the Staff from obtaining the information waived through data request if it is subsequently deemed necessary to complete the Staff's investigation effectively and efficiently.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the test period for Duke shall begin January 1, 2012, and end December 31, 2012, and the date certain shall be March 31, 2012. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the appropriate method for making any changes to the date certain or test period shall be the filing of a new notice of intent to file an application for an increase in rates and withdrawal of the pending application. It is, further,

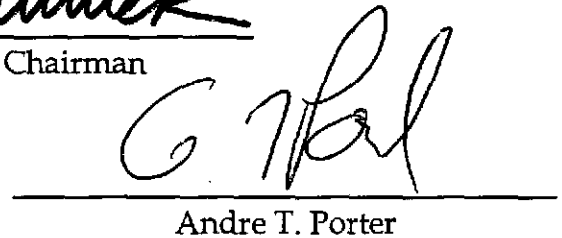
ORDERED, That the requests for waivers made by the Applicant are granted or denied as set forth in this entry. It is further,

ORDERED, That a copy of the Entry be served upon all parties of record.

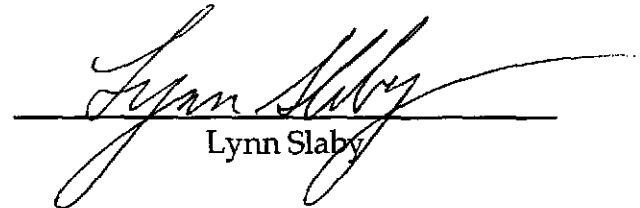
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

  
Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman

  
Steven D. Lesser


  
Andre T. Porter

  
Cheryl L. Roberto

  
Lynn Slaby

HW/jd

Entered in the Journal  
JUL 02 2012

  
Barcy F. McNeal

Barcy F. McNeal  
Secretary