

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its Electric Distribution Rates.)	Case No. 12-1682-EL-AIR
)	
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for Tariff Approval.)	Case No. 12-1683-EL-ATA
)	
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for Approval to Change Accounting Methods.)	Case No. 12-1684-EL-AAM
)	
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its Natural Gas Distribution Rates.)	Case No. 12-1685-GA-AIR
)	
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for Tariff Approval.)	Case No. 12-1686-GA-ATA
)	
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan for Gas Distribution Service.)	Case No. 12-1687-GA-ALT
)	
In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for Approval to Change Accounting Methods.)	Case No. 12-1688-GA-AAM
)	

ENTRY

The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke), is an electric company as defined by Section 4905.03, Revised Code, a natural gas company as defined by Section 4905.03, 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) By entry issued on January 10, 2013, the attorney examiner, *inter alia*, established the procedural schedule for the above-captioned

cases. On January 18, 2013, the attorney examiner granted an extension of the procedural schedule.

- (3) Section 4903.083, Revised Code, requires that the Commission hold at least one public hearing session within Duke's service territory, and that at least one session of the local public hearings be scheduled after 5:00 p.m. Accordingly, local public hearings have been scheduled at the following times and locations:
 - (a) February 19, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at the Fairfield Township Administrative Building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.
 - (b) February 20, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at the Union Township Civic Center Hall, 4350 Aicholtz Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45245.
 - (c) February 25, 2013, 6:30 p.m., at the City Building, City Council Chambers, Lower Level, 1 Donham Plaza, Middletown, Ohio 45042.
 - (d) February 28, 2013, 12:30 p.m., at Cincinnati City Hall, Council Chambers, 801 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.
- (4) Duke should publish legal notice of the local hearings in a newspaper of general circulation in all of the affected service territory once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the scheduled date of the local hearing. The hearing notice should not appear in the legal notices section of the newspaper. The notice should read as follows:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) has scheduled local public hearings in Case Nos. 12-1682-EL-AIR, 12-1683-EL-ATA, and 12-1654-EL-AAM, *In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its Electric Distribution Rates, for Tariff Approval, and for Approval to Change Accounting Methods (Electric Rate Case)*, and Case Nos. 12-1685-GA-AIR, 12-1686-GA-ATA, 12-1687-GA-ALT, and 12-1688-GA-AAM, *In the Matter of the*

Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its Natural Gas Distribution Rates, for Tariff Approval, for Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan for Gas Distribution Service, and for Approval to Change Accounting Methods (Gas Rate Case). These local hearings are scheduled for the purpose of providing an opportunity to interested members of the public to testify in these proceedings. The local hearings will be held at the following times and locations: February 19, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at the Fairfield Township Administrative Building, 6032 Morris Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011; February 20, 2013, at 6:30 p.m., at the Union Township Civic Center Hall, 4350 Aicholtz Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45245; February 25, 2013, 6:30 p.m., at the City Building, City Council Chambers, Lower Level, 1 Donham Plaza, Middletown, Ohio 45042; and February 28, 2013, 12:30 p.m., at Cincinnati City Hall, Council Chambers, 801 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. The evidentiary hearing will commence on March 25, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-A, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

In the *Electric Rate Case*, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) seeks a rate increase that would generate approximately \$86,581,974 of additional revenue, or an increase of 24.02 percent over current revenue. After its review of Duke's records and application, the staff of the Commission recommends a revenue increase of between \$37,168,986 to \$46,166,385, or an increase of 10.11 to 12.56 percent over current revenue. The major issues in the *Electric Rate Case* include:

- (a) Revenue requirements as impacted by rate base, operating income, and rate of return.
- (b) Establishment of a facilities relocation and transportation tariff and rider.

- (c) Establishment of a deferral mechanism to track storm costs.
- (d) Amortization of the balance of the regulatory assets.

In the *Gas Rate Case*, Duke seeks a rate increase that would generate approximately \$44,607,929 of additional revenue, or an increase of 18.09 percent over current revenue. Upon review, the staff of the Commission recommends a revenue decrease from current revenue of between \$10,725,809 and \$3,358,775, or a decrease from current revenue of between 2.80 and 0.88 percent. The major issues in the *Gas Rate Case* include:

- (a) Revenue requirements as impacted by rate base, operating income, and rate of return.
- (b) Establishment of various riders, including: accelerated service line replacement program; facilities relocation and transportation; natural gas vehicle; gas generation interruptible transportation; and economic development.
- (c) Changing the charge for reconnection of service.
- (d) Amendments to the accelerated main replacement program and rider (AMRP) and implementation of a rider for replacements not cover under rider AMRP.
- (e) Continuation of its grid modernization initiative and rider.

- (f) Continuation of deferral authority for, and recovery of manufactured gas plant cleanup costs.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793, the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826, or the PUCO website at <http://www.puc.state.oh.us>.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That local public hearings be scheduled in accordance with finding (3). It is, further,

ORDERED, That notice of the local hearings be published by Duke as directed in finding (4). It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon all parties of record in the above-captioned cases.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/ Katie L. Stenman

By: Katie L. Stenman
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/dah

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in

Case No(s). 12-1682-EL-AIR, 12-1683-EL-ATA, 12-1684-EL-AAM, 12-1685-GA-AIR, 12-1686-GA-ATA,

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry ordering that local public hearings in these proceedings be held as set forth in finding (3) and that Duke publish notice of the local public hearings as set forth in finding (4); electronically filed by Debra Hight on behalf of Katie L. Stenman, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.