1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO			
2				
3	In the Matter of the : Application of The Dayton :			
4	Power and Light Company : Case No. 12-3062-EL-RDR for Authority to Recover :			
5	Certain Storm-Related : Service Restoration Costs.:			
б	: In the Matter of the :			
7	Application of The Dayton: Power and Light Company: Case No. 12-3266-EL-AAM			
8	For Approval of Certain : Accounting Authority. :			
9				
10	DEPOSITION			
11	of Dona R. Seger-Lawson, taken before me, Karen Sue			
12	Gibson, a Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio,			
13	at the offices of Faruki, Ireland & Cox P.L.L., 500			
14	Courthouse Plaza, S.W., 10 North Ludlow Street,			
15	Dayton, Ohio, on Thursday, January 30, 2014, at			
16	1 p.m.			
17				
18	VOLUME I			
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21				
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4	Dayton, Ohio 45402			
5	and			
6	Ms. Judi L. Sobecki 1065 Woodman Drive			
7	Dayton, Ohio 45432			
8	On behalf of the Applicant.			
9	Bruce E. Weston, Ohio Consumers' Counsel By Ms. Melissa R. Yost,			
10	Deputy Consumers' Counsel Mr. Michael J. Schuler (via speakerphone)			
11	and Mr. Larry S. Sauer (via speakerphone), Assistant Consumers' Counsel			
12	10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485			
13	On behalf of the Residential Customers of			
14	The Dayton Power and Light Company.			
15	Mike DeWine, Ohio Attorney General By Mr. William L. Wright,			
16	Section Chief Public Utilities Section			
17	<pre>Mr. Devin Parram (via speakerphone) Mr. Ryan O'Rourke (via speakerphone),</pre>			
18	Assistant Attorneys General 180 East Broad Street, 6th Floor			
19	Columbus, Ohio 43215			
20	On behalf of the Staff of the PUCO.			
21	ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Jeff Hecker, Staff (via speakerphone).			
22	Mr. David Lipthratt, Staff (via speakerphone). Ms. Tammy Turkenton, Staff (via speakerphone).			
23				
24				
25				

	3
1	Thursday Afternoon Session
2	January 30, 2014.
3	
4	STIPULATIONS
5	It is stipulated by and among counsel for the
6	respective parties that the deposition of Dona R.
7	Seger-Lawson, a witness called by the Office of the
8	Consumers' Counsel under the applicable Rules of
9	Civil Procedure, may be reduced to writing in
10	stenotypy by the Notary, whose notes thereafter may
11	be transcribed out of the presence of the witness;
12	and that proof of the official character and
13	qualification of the Notary is waived.
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1 INDEX 2 - - -

2			
3	OCC	Exhibit	Identified
4	A	Direct Testimony of Dona R. Seger-Lawson	9
5 6	В	Supplemental Testimony of Dona R. Seger-Lawson	9
7	С	Stipulation and Recommendation, Case No. 99-1687-EL-ETP	22
8	D	Find and Order, Case No. 08-1332-EL-AAM	29
9	E	Application, 08-1332-EL-AAM	37
11	F	Finding and Order, 12-2281-EL-AAM	39
12	G	Entry on Rehearing, 12-2281-EL-AAM	40
13	Н	Stipulation and Recommendation, Case No. 08-1094-EL-SSO	51
14	I	Opinion and Order, Case No. 12-426-EL-SS	50 63
15	J	Audit Report, Case Nos. 12-3062-EL-RDR and 12-3266-EL-AAM	100
16 17	K	Opinion and Order, Case No. 08-1094-EL-S	3SO 118
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
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1 DONA R. SEGER-LAWSON

- 2 being by me first duly sworn, as hereinafter
- 3 certified, deposes and says as follows:
- 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 5 By Ms. Yost:
- 6 Q. Afternoon, Dona.
- 7 A. Good afternoon.
- 8 Q. For the record this deposition is being
- 9 taken by notice. Dona, I see you have a notebook
- 10 with you today. Could you state what you have
- 11 brought with you to the deposition.
- 12 A. Sure. I have a copy of my direct
- 13 testimony, and I have a copy of my supplemental
- 14 testimony. I have a copy of the staff audit report
- 15 in this case. I have a copy of the stipulation and
- 16 recommendation in Case No. 08-1094-EL-SSO. I also
- 17 have the opinion and order from that same case. I
- 18 have a section of the Ohio Revised Code. I have a
- 19 copy of the finding and order in Case No.
- 20 08-1332-EL-AAM. I have a copy of the DPL, Inc.,
- 21 financial results from the third quarter.
- Q. Third quarter of?
- 23 A. 2013. I have a copy of the 1999
- 24 stipulation in Case No. 99-1687-EL-ETP. I have a
- 25 copy of the stipulation and recommendation in Case

- 1 No. 02-2779-EL-ATA, a copy of the stipulation and
- 2 recommendation in Case No. 05-276-EL-AIR. I have
- 3 copies of Schedule C-1 from this filing. I have a
- 4 copy of the Ohio Revised Code Section 4909.03,
- 5 although I can't remember why. I'm looking at this
- 6 going I wonder why I put that in there. I have a
- 7 copy of Jeff Hecker's testimony in Case No.
- 8 11-346-EL-SSO. I have a copy of Jeff Hecker's
- 9 testimony in Case No. 12-1682-EL-AIR. I have a copy
- of the finding and order in Case No. 05-1090-EL-ATA.
- I have a copy of page 7 of staff's
- 12 comments filed in this case. I have a copy of
- 13 Attachment A to David Lipthratt's testimony in
- 14 this -- in Case No. 12-426-EL-SSO. I have a copy of
- 15 FERC Form 1, page 322, from Ohio Power as well as a
- 16 copy from the Dayton Power and Light Company, both
- 17 from 2012.
- I have a copy of an announcement that
- 19 DP&L won an Edison Electric Institute Award for its
- 20 storm restoration efforts. I have a copy of a
- 21 balance basically of the O&M expenditures for the
- 22 2008 storms, a copy of the application in Case No.
- 23 12-2281-EL-AAM, and an amended application in that
- 24 same case. I have a copy of the application in this
- 25 case, which is 12-3062-EL-RDR.

1 Q. That's the entire application without

- 2 exhibits?
- 3 A. This is the application and the schedules
- 4 that I support.
- Q. Okay.
- 6 A. I have all the schedules that I support
- 7 and all the workpapers that I support. I also have a
- 8 copy of the opinion and order in Case No.
- 9 12-426-EL-SSO, and I have a copy of the Dayton Daily
- 10 News article that says that June's windstorm was the
- 11 third costliest storm in the Dayton area.
- 12 Q. June, 2012?
- 13 A. That was -- that was about the derecho so
- 14 2012.
- 15 Q. 2012. Is that it?
- 16 A. I have some handwritten notes about what
- 17 the company sought for deferral and what we sought
- 18 for recovery.
- 19 Q. I'll give you the opportunity, and you
- 20 can talk it over with counsel, but if you are going
- 21 to rely on that, I am going to ask to see it, but if
- 22 you want to take it out of the notebook, I won't ask
- 23 to see it, but if she relies on it in her answers, I
- 24 would ask to see it.
- 25 A. Okay.

1 MR. SHARKEY: You can see it.

- 2 MS. YOST: Thank you.
- Q. Dona, we have been through this before.
- 4 You have been deposed many times at this time, right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. You understand I am going to ask you a
- 7 series of questions. You are answering under oath.
- 8 Please make your answers verbal for the convenience
- 9 of the court reporter. If you do not understand one
- 10 of my questions, please ask me to clarify. If you
- 11 give an answer, it will be assumed that you
- 12 understood the question; is that okay?
- 13 A. Okay.
- Q. Both you and I need to make sure we don't
- 15 talk over each other for the convenience of the court
- 16 reporter.
- 17 A. Okay.
- 18 Q. And if at any time you need take a break,
- 19 please let me know. You can do that as long as there
- 20 is not an answer pending, okay?
- 21 A. Okay.
- 22 Q. Is there anything today that could
- 23 inhibit your testimony to recollect or tell the
- 24 truth?
- 25 A. No.

1 Q. And we just went over your notebook. Did

- 2 you review anything else in preparation for your
- 3 deposition today that's not been included in your
- 4 notebook that we just discussed?
- 5 A. I don't think so.
- 6 Q. I am going to ask that -- is it okay if I
- 7 call you Dona?
- A. Yes, that's fine.
- 9 Q. You can refer to me as Melissa.
- 10 MS. YOST: Ask that Dona's direct
- 11 testimony be marked as OCC Exhibit A and the
- 12 supplemental testimony OCC Exhibit B.
- 13 (EXHIBITS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- Q. When I say A, that will be your direct
- 15 testimony.
- 16 A. Okay.
- 17 Q. Could you please describe your role in
- 18 developing your direct testimony which has been
- 19 marked as OCC Exhibit A.
- 20 A. My role in developing this testimony was
- 21 such that I drafted it and shared it with a number of
- 22 parties and redrafted it.
- Q. Did anyone assist you in the drafting of
- 24 the testimony except for counsel?
- 25 A. Yes. Folks that report to me and were

1 working on the case reviewed it and made suggestions

- 2 and some of those suggestions I accepted and some of
- 3 them I didn't.
- 4 Q. And who -- what are the names of those
- 5 persons that actually reviewed and made suggestions
- 6 to your testimony who work under you?
- 7 A. Aside from counsel?
- 8 Q. Yes.
- 9 A. That would be Clair Hale and Emily Rabb.
- 10 And we probably also sent it to Bryce Nickel and
- 11 Alissa Steele.
- 12 Q. A-L-Y --
- 13 A. A-L-I-S-S-A S-T-E-E-L-E.
- Q. Thank you.
- 15 A. And probably Greg Campbell as well.
- 16 Q. Did anyone else review it excluding
- 17 counsel than the persons you've just named?
- 18 A. I don't think so.
- 19 Q. And would you have Exhibit A as filed --
- 20 I'm sorry, OCC Exhibit A as filed with the PUCO, do
- 21 you have any corrections to make to that testimony
- that you've found since it was filed?
- 23 A. No, I don't.
- Q. What's your current title?
- 25 A. Director of regulatory operations.

1 Q. And how long have you had that title?

- 2 A. I don't know.
- 3 Q. '92?
- 4 A. Actually it's in my testimony on page 1,
- 5 line 15, so I was promoted in August of 2012 -- I'm
- 6 sorry, 2002, 2002.
- 7 Q. Okay. 2002 you had the title of director
- 8 of regulatory operations.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. Thank you. And who do you report
- 11 to?
- 12 A. I report to Derek Porter.
- 13 Q. And his title?
- 14 A. Is the president of the Dayton Power and
- 15 Light Company.
- 16 Q. Is that the only person you have to
- 17 report to?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And then you named Clair, Emily, Bryce,
- 20 Alissa, and Greg. You supervise all those persons?
- A. No, I don't.
- Q. Who -- who do you supervise?
- 23 A. Clair and Emily. Actually I -- Clair
- 24 reports to Emily but.
- 25 Q. Page 2 of your testimony starting on the

1 question, line 17 is indicating the schedules you are

- 2 supporting. Do you still support or will you still
- 3 support all those schedules at hearing?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Are there any additional schedules that
- 6 you will be supporting?
- 7 A. There are exhibits to my supplemental
- 8 testimony that aren't listed there.
- 9 Q. So other -- that's probably mentioned in
- 10 your supplemental though, right?
- 11 A. Right, that's correct.
- 12 Q. And if I could have you turn to your
- 13 testimony where you talk about the schedules starting
- 14 on page 12, I believe. Do you -- I see you discuss
- 15 several schedules on page 12 and over to -- yeah, on
- 16 page 12. Anywhere in your testimony do you discuss
- 17 the purposes of Schedules A-1 through A-3?
- 18 A. Yes, starting on page 8 of my original
- 19 testimony, line 11, I discuss Schedule A-1.
- Q. Thank you.
- 21 A. And then Schedule A-2 and 3 come after
- 22 that.
- Q. I see that. Thank you. Does Schedule
- 24 A-1 include calculations that are based on the
- 25 capital expenditures that the company sought to

- 1 collect in its application?
- 2 A. Schedule A-1 shows the rate calculation
- 3 that the company proposed for the 12-month period
- 4 March of '13 through February, '14. It includes the
- 5 revenue requirement that would include the company's
- 6 request for capital recovery.
- 7 Q. Thank you. And in regard to Schedule A-2
- 8 the question is going to be consistent. Does that
- 9 schedule include calculations in regard to the
- 10 capital expenses that the company sought in its
- 11 application?
- 12 A. Yes. Schedule A-2 contains the
- 13 distribution of the revenue requirement through the
- 14 tariff classes. And that revenue requirement is for
- one year of what the company was seeking which
- 16 includes return on and return of capital.
- 17 Q. And it's fair to say Schedule A-1 and
- 18 Schedule A-2 would also include calculations in
- 19 regards to the operations and the maintenance costs
- 20 that the company was seeking in its application?
- 21 A. Yes. It would include a revenue
- 22 requirement calculation that would include O&M and
- 23 capital -- I should say return on capital,
- 24 depreciation expense, and taxes.
- Q. And, again, Schedule A-3, fair to say

1 that that schedule includes calculations of both O&M

- 2 expenses and capital costs that the company was
- 3 seeking in its application?
- 4 A. No. Actually Schedule A-3 is the
- 5 demonstration of what the distribution revenues of
- 6 the company were based on a prior history, yeah,
- 7 based on October, 2011, through September of '12,
- 8 annual distribution revenues by tariff class.
- 9 Q. Okay. Thank you. And in regard to your
- 10 next schedule is B-1 that you are sponsoring? Is
- 11 that schedule -- that schedule includes the company's
- 12 request for amount related to capital expenses?
- 13 A. Yes. Schedule B-1 contains a revenue
- 14 requirement from March, 2012, through February, '15,
- which includes rate base, return on rate base,
- 16 depreciation expense, taxes, other O&M for that
- 17 period.
- 18 Q. Thank you. And the next schedule that
- 19 you are sponsoring, would that be B-5; is that
- 20 correct, B-5?
- 21 A. Yes, B-5.
- 22 O. And does that include calculations based
- 23 on the amount of capital costs that the company
- 24 sought in its application?
- 25 A. Yes, Schedule B-5 contains a revenue

1 requirement calculation for the period March of 2008

- 2 through February, 2012, which includes rate base,
- 3 return on rate base, depreciation expense, taxes
- 4 other than income to calculate a revenue requirement.
- 5 Q. Thank you. And then Schedule C-1
- 6 following your testimony, that would be the next
- 7 schedule that you sponsor; is that correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And does that schedule include amounts
- 10 that the company sought in regard to capital
- 11 expenses?
- 12 A. No, it does not. Schedule C-1 contains a
- 13 calculation of total storm O&M.
- Q. And Schedule C-2, that does not contain
- 15 any calculation with regard to the amount of capital
- 16 costs that the company was seeking in this case,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And does Schedule C-3 calculations, are
- 20 they based on amounts that the company sought in its
- 21 application for capital expenditures?
- 22 A. Schedule C-3 is sponsored by Greg
- 23 Campbell.
- 24 Q. Sorry, E-1.
- 25 A. Schedule E-1 is sponsored by me. It is a

1 calculation of typical bills. That would be what the

- 2 change is in the total customer bill based on the
- 3 company's request.
- 4 Q. And that's all the schedules that you are
- 5 sponsoring in regard to your direct testimony,
- 6 correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And then workpaper -- WPA-1, does that
- 9 contain calculations that are based on the amount of
- 10 capital expenses that the company was seeking in its
- 11 application?
- 12 A. Workpaper A-1 is a calculation of the
- 13 private outdoor lighting rates that would result from
- 14 a price per kilowatt-hour, so it's not directly
- 15 related to capital.
- 16 Q. Thank you. And workpaper WPC-2.
- 17 A. Workpaper WPC-2 is the calculation of
- 18 carrying costs from the period March of 2009 through
- 19 February, 2013, on page 1 and March of 2013 through
- 20 February of '16 on page 2. It's not directly related
- 21 to capital.
- 22 Q. Thank you. And does your WPC-2 indicate
- 23 the amount of the carrying costs rate that was used
- 24 to calculate WPC-2? Would that be 5.86 as indicated
- 25 under -- or above column (H)?

1 A. Yes, the carrying costs on workpaper

- 2 WPC-2 assumes a carrying cost of 5.86 percent.
- Q. And is it fair to say that the company's
- 4 request for carrying charges used 5.86 throughout its
- 5 application for the cost rate?
- 6 A. Yes, I believe so.
- 7 Q. And did you determine that the
- 8 5.86 percentage was the appropriate carrying cost
- 9 rate?
- 10 A. The 5.86 was the cost of debt that was
- 11 from a most recently approved cost of capital that
- 12 the company had before the Commission. I believe it
- 13 was from the 2008 case.
- Q. Are these -- are these workpapers that
- 15 you actually compiled or? I understand you are
- 16 sponsoring them, but did you actually do the inputs?
- 17 A. No. Someone that reports to me would
- 18 have done the inputs, but I would have verified them
- 19 and checked them.
- Q. And the last workpaper, WPC-3, that you
- 21 are sponsoring, this is in regard to again carrying
- 22 costs for O&M, and it would have nothing to do with
- 23 the capital costs that the company sought in its
- 24 application; is that fair to say?
- 25 A. Yes. This is calculating the carrying

1 costs from December of '12 through February of '16.

- Q. Thank you. Now, you're aware that the
- 3 Commission -- well, let me put it this way, what is
- 4 your understanding of the Commission's determination
- 5 in regard to the company's application that sought
- 6 capital costs in this proceeding?
- 7 A. I'm not sure I understand the question.
- 8 Q. Are you aware that the Commission issued
- 9 a finding or -- in regard to the capital costs that
- 10 the company sought in its application?
- 11 A. There was an order that the Commission
- 12 issued in the fall or winter of 2013 that addressed
- 13 capital but I'm not aware that it was a final order
- 14 in this case.
- 15 Q. Is it your understanding that the cap --
- 16 the company is still seeking capital costs in this
- 17 case?
- 18 A. Our application included capital costs,
- 19 and we sought recovery of capital through this case.
- Q. When we went through and we talked about
- 21 your schedules and your workpapers, the ones that had
- 22 a component that was dependent upon capital costs,
- 23 have you updated those schedules or workpapers to
- 24 reflect the removal of capital costs?
- 25 A. I have not.

1 Q. Go back to your testimony, page 2. What

- 2 is a rate mechanism?
- 3 A. I assume that you are referring to line
- 4 22 on page 2 of my testimony?
- 5 Q. Sure. We can be specific to what is.
- 6 A. Okay. That is relating to whether or not
- 7 we have a rate or rider that currently recovers storm
- 8 costs. Sometimes people refer to rates as a rate
- 9 tariff class, and sometimes they refer to the
- 10 specific rate that is -- there may be several that
- 11 make up a tariff class so I was trying to distinguish
- 12 rate mechanism as an individual item that would be
- 13 charged to a given tariff class.
- 14 Q. Is the collection of charges through base
- 15 rates a rate mechanism?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And in regard to page 3 of your
- 18 testimony, you talk about the 1991 case that
- 19 established the rates that are currently in the base
- 20 distribution rates. There is a discussion of that on
- 21 page 3. What was your role in the 1991 rate case?
- A. I joined the company in 1992; and,
- 23 therefore, I was not involved in the filing or
- 24 settlement of the 1991 rate case. However, that case
- 25 was implemented on a phase-in basis and I did help

1 verify that the rates that were charged in 1992 and

- 2 1993 were calculated correctly and applied correctly.
- Q. Did the company request storm cost
- 4 collection in its application -- and I don't want to
- 5 misspeak. I assume it was filed in 1991, the
- 6 application itself was filed in 1991. Of course.
- 7 The case number is 91. So did the company request
- 8 storm cost collection in its application that was
- 9 filed in Case 91-414?
- 10 A. Case No. 91-414-EL-AIR was a base case
- 11 and so, therefore, it was -- it included
- 12 transmission, generation, and distribution costs. It
- 13 would have been a cost-based rate case. And so it
- 14 would have included all costs within the test year.
- 15 Q. And that would have included storm costs
- 16 within that test year.
- 17 A. I don't know.
- Q. Are there different types of storm costs?
- 19 I don't mean to say O&M versus capital but different
- 20 types of storms where the company incurs costs in
- 21 your opinion.
- 22 A. In the last several years the Commission
- 23 has established a definition for a major storm and
- 24 everything else then is a nonmajor storm. Either it
- 25 meets the qualifications for a major storm or it

1 doesn't. Or I would say there are two categories.

- 2 One would be a major storm; one would be a nonmajor
- 3 storm.
- 4 Q. Since you've been with the company since
- 5 1992, has the company ever had a year where it did
- 6 not incur storm restoration costs?
- 7 A. Not that I'm aware but I don't know that
- 8 I would know -- in the early years of my career I
- 9 don't know that I would have been focused on that.
- 10 Q. On page 3, question 10, question is "Has
- 11 the Company had a storm rider in place since 1999,"
- 12 and your answer is "Yes." And then you continue on,
- 13 and you can -- you can clarify if I'm getting this
- 14 wrong, but the answer starts that "The Company had a
- 15 storm rider in place from August 2006 through July
- 16 2008." And then you have further testimony there.
- I see no indication in response to that
- 18 question what rider was in place in 1999 to collect
- 19 storm costs. So my question to you is what was --
- 20 was there a rider in place in 1999 to collect storm
- 21 costs?
- 22 A. The company in 1999 went through its ETP
- 23 case where we unbundled our then current rates into
- 24 T, D, and G. The result of that case was a
- 25 stipulation whereby -- get the right page -- in 1999

1 we had a stipulation that froze distribution rates

- 2 through 2006 with the exception of storm costs that
- 3 the company would incur after 2003.
- 4 MS. YOST: Would you read back her
- 5 answer, please.
- 6 (Record read.)
- 7 MS. YOST: Can I have this marked as OCC
- 8 Exhibit C, please.
- 9 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- 10 Q. Dona, do you have this stipulation and
- 11 recommendation, 99-1687? But I will add that I did
- 12 not print off the exhibits, but do you have this?
- 13 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Okay. Can you turn to page 3 of that
- 15 stipulation, please.
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. Paragraph 4 it says "Electric Base Rate
- 18 Freeze," and I'm going to read this and tell me if I
- 19 get this correct. "The base electric distribution
- 20 rates (unbundled as described above) will remain the
- 21 same through December 31, 2006. After December 31,
- 22 2003, such distribution rates can be adjusted by an
- 23 application under Ohio Revised Code Section 4909.18
- 24 to reflect the costs of complying with changes after
- 25 the date of the Stip" -- "of this Stipulation in

- 1 environmental (distribution-related), tax or
- 2 regulatory laws or regulations, and relief from storm
- 3 damage expenses; or in the event of an emergency" and
- 4 then it continues on. Is it fair to say that based
- 5 on this 1999 stipulation, that there was no storm
- 6 rider available to the company in 1999?
- 7 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 8 legal conclusion but you can answer if you know.
- 9 A. The case was filed in 1999. It was filed
- in December of '99 and we negotiated it through 2000
- 11 and the results of it took effect January 1, 2001.
- 12 The company did not have a separate rate mechanism
- 13 for storm cost recovery, and I think this paragraph
- 14 says that if we -- that we could seek that rate
- 15 mechanism after December 31 of 2003 to recover storm
- 16 damage expenses.
- Q. So based on what you say, is it fair to
- 18 say that the company did not have a storm damage
- 19 mechanism available to it in 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002,
- 20 2003 but there was one available starting January 1,
- 21 2004?
- 22 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. I am not sure
- 23 what you mean by available, but you can answer.
- 24 A. I think that this says that the company's
- 25 distribution rates -- that the parties agreed that

1 DP&L's distribution rates would be frozen through

- 2 2006 with the exception of storm damage expenses
- 3 which the company could seek after 2003.
- 4 Q. So would you agree that before 2000 --
- 5 before 2004 pursuant to this agreement the company
- 6 could not seek storm damages through a rider?
- 7 MR. SHARKEY: Objection, calls for a
- 8 legal conclusion. You can answer.
- 9 A. I'm not sure I understand the question.
- 10 Q. Did the company have a storm rider in
- 11 place in 1999 to collect 1999 storm damage?
- 12 A. No. In 1999, we had bundled rates that
- 13 included T, D, and G.
- 14 Q. In 2000, did the company have a storm
- 15 rider in place where it could collect 2000 storm
- 16 damage costs?
- 17 A. No. Again, in 2000, we had bundled
- 18 rates.
- 19 Q. And the same would be for 2001, the
- 20 company did not have a storm rider in place to
- 21 collect storm costs for 2001, correct?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- Q. Same would be for 2002?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. 2003?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Thank you. And you state in your
- 3 testimony that the company has not had a storm rider
- 4 since July, 2008, and I think that's line 11, page 3.
- 5 Yes. Or I will let you answer.
- 6 A. My testimony says on page 3, line 11,
- 7 that we had a storm rider in place from 2 -- August
- 8 of 2006 through July, 2008, to recover the specific
- 9 costs associated with the ice storm in the winter of
- 10 2004 and '5.
- 11 Q. And since August, 2008, the company has
- 12 not had a storm rider in place; is that correct?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. I want to talk a little bit about the
- 15 application the company filed in 2008 to seek storm
- 16 costs incurred in 2008. That application,
- 17 08-1332-EL-AAM, what was your role in the filing, if
- 18 any, in the filing of that application?
- 19 A. I would have been in charge of the
- 20 regulatory group, and I either would have drafted it
- 21 or someone on my staff would have drafted it along
- 22 with counsel.
- Q. And at the time in 2008, was it part of
- 24 your job duties to decide when to seek a deferral of
- 25 expenses?

- 1 A. It's not my sole discretion. There's
- 2 always a conversation that's had with the vice
- 3 president who is in charge of storm restoration as
- 4 well as executive management about whether or not the
- 5 company should file for a deferral request.
- 6 Q. And why does a company file for a
- 7 deferral request of O&M expenses?
- 8 A. The company would seek deferral if there
- 9 was a cost that would be recoverable in a future
- 10 period of time and that recovery would be probable
- 11 for recovery. And so I would have reviewed all the
- 12 stipulations the company had signed and what those
- 13 provisions of those stipulations state and whether or
- 14 not the company would be successful at seeking a
- 15 deferral and recovering that cost in a future period
- 16 of time.
- Q. Can't that be accomplished with the
- 18 filing of a rate case? The same thing?
- 19 A. As we discussed, the company had a number
- 20 of stipulations that the company and the staff and
- 21 the OCC had signed over the years from 2000 to 2012
- 22 where the company had a distribution rate freeze so
- 23 the company committed not to file a distribution rate
- 24 case and the parties essentially by signing it agreed
- 25 they would not seek an adjustment in the distribution

- 1 rates of the company.
- Q. Do you recall if you -- if at that time
- 3 in regard to the 2008 application it was your
- 4 recommendation that the company seek a deferral of
- 5 those expenses in 2008?
- A. In 2008, we would have had a frozen
- 7 distribution rate that was carried over from Case
- 8 No. 05-276-EL-AIR and I would have reviewed that
- 9 stipulation to identify whether or not the company
- 10 could seek deferral of the storm costs and I would
- 11 have looked at the stipulation in the '05 case,
- 12 reviewed that, and seen that it said that we had
- 13 frozen distribution rates through 2008 with the
- 14 exception of storm cost recovery.
- Q. When you say you would have, do you
- 16 recall doing that?
- 17 A. I don't recall specifically doing that
- 18 but that's my normal course of business if someone
- 19 asks me if we could recover certain costs.
- Q. Can capital costs be deferred?
- 21 A. No. There's no point in deferring
- 22 capital costs because capital is already capital.
- 23 The effect of a deferral is that you take something
- 24 that is currently an O&M expense and put it into a
- 25 regulatory asset and essentially it becomes capital

- 1 by deferring it.
- Q. And then how do you collect those capital
- 3 costs?
- 4 A. You seek recovery of them.
- 5 Q. And how can you -- what would you file to
- 6 seek recovery of those capital costs, or what can you
- 7 file to seek recovery of those capital costs?
- 8 A. I'm confused now about what capital costs
- 9 we are talking about. The ones that were deferred or
- 10 straight-up capital costs?
- 11 Q. Let's do straight up first. How do you
- 12 seek recovery of capital costs?
- 13 A. The company would file a rate case or
- 14 separate case seeking recovery of those costs.
- Q. When you say a separate case, what would
- 16 that be?
- 17 A. I always talk in the nomenclature of the
- 18 company -- of the Commission's Docketing Information
- 19 System so we would file an RDR case which is a
- 20 request to develop a rider. I think that's what it
- 21 stands for.
- Q. Dona, I am going to have you take a look
- 23 at the finding and order in Case No. 08-1332-EL-AAM.
- MS. YOST: Could I have this marked as
- 25 OCC Exhibit D, I believe.

1 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

- Q. Do you have that one?
- 3 A. Yes, I do.
- 4 Q. And is it your understanding that in its
- 5 application the company proposed to defer O&M costs
- 6 incurred in 2008 that exceeded the three-year average
- 7 service storm O&M expenses associated with major
- 8 storms?
- 9 A. The application in that case the company
- 10 was seeking Commission authority to defer costs
- 11 associated -- I should say O&M expenses associated
- 12 with the Hurricane Ike as well as other storms
- 13 experienced in 2008 and to the extent that amount
- 14 exceeded the three-year average of O&M expenses
- 15 associated with major storms.
- 16 Q. And what three years -- so the company
- 17 has been deferring certain 2008 storm expenses since
- 18 the Commission approved part of its request on
- 19 January 14, 2009; is that fair to say?
- 20 A. The company has deferred its 2008 storm
- 21 costs that exceeded the three-year average since we
- 22 received this Commission order, yes.
- Q. And how did the company calculate the
- 24 three-year average applicable to the 2008 Hurricane
- 25 Ike storm expenses?

- 1 A. Just to make sure we're clear, it's all
- 2 of 2008, not just Hurricane Ike, and the company
- 3 would have calculated the total cost of storm expense
- 4 in 2008 and subtracted out the three-year average of
- 5 major storms from 2007, '6, and '5.
- 6 Q. And on page 2 of the entry -- I'm sorry.
- 7 I didn't mean to say entry; I meant finding and
- 8 order, I don't want to mischaracterize it, of
- 9 January 14, 2009. Can you show me -- I guess I don't
- 10 want to limit you, but can you show me anywhere in
- 11 this finding and order dated January 14, 2009, where
- 12 the Commission says DP&L has authority to defer
- incremental O&M costs related to any storm other than
- 14 Ike in 2008?
- 15 A. Paragraph 4 on page 2 of that finding and
- 16 order says that the Commission finds that the
- 17 application is reasonable and should be approved. It
- 18 does not say that there is anything that is
- 19 disallowed or not approved.
- Q. Paragraph 4?
- 21 A. Yes. It says "the Commission finds that
- 22 the application" and has some other words and then it
- 23 says at the bottom "is reasonable and shouldn't be
- 24 approved."
- MR. SHARKEY: You said "shouldn't be."

- 1 A. I'm sorry, "should be approved."
- Q. And the other words, if I read this
- 3 correctly, says "Commission finds that the
- 4 application seeking authority to modify the Company's
- 5 accounting procedures to defer incremental O&M
- 6 expenses associated with the September 14, 2008,
- 7 windstorm, with carrying costs, is reasonable and
- 8 should be approved." That's -- that statement there
- 9 gives -- and I don't want to mischaracterize. Is
- 10 paragraph 4, that statement there is the authority in
- 11 your opinion?
- 12 A. I think that statement there
- 13 mischaracterizes what the company's application was.
- 14 The company's application was to seek authority for
- 15 all storm costs in 2004 that exceed the three-year
- 16 average, and this paragraph says that the application
- is reasonable and should be approved. There's
- 18 nothing in this paragraph nor anywhere else in this
- 19 finding and order that says any part of the company's
- 20 application is not approved or disallowed.
- Q. Does the Commission have to specifically
- 22 identify parts of applications that are not approved
- 23 or disallowed?
- 24 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 25 legal conclusion. You can answer.

1 A. Usually when the Commission issues an

- 2 order that finds something is disallowed, it
- 3 specifically says something is disallowed.
- 4 Q. What do you mean by "usually"?
- 5 A. I've obviously been in this job for a
- 6 long time and I have read a lot of Commission orders
- 7 and to the extent that the Commission specifically
- 8 disallows something they usually say so.
- 9 Q. Is there a rule or law that mandates that
- 10 if the Commission disallows something, they have to
- 11 specifically say so in an order or entry?
- 12 A. I don't know.
- Q. So how long has the company been
- 14 calculating carrying costs in regard -- in regard to
- 15 storm costs from 2008?
- 16 A. Consistent with this finding and order
- 17 that we just discussed, the company has been
- 18 deferring and calculating carrying costs on the 2008
- 19 storms since I believe 2008.
- 20 Q. So before the Commission approved a
- 21 portion of the company's application?
- 22 A. Yes. Usually we record deferrals when we
- 23 believe that they are probable for recovery and that
- 24 probability for recovery usually involves a
- 25 discussion about Commission precedent, about whether

1 or not the company has filed a case, so there are a

- 2 number of factors that go into something being
- 3 probable for recovery, but we would have recorded a
- 4 deferral in 2008.
- 5 Q. Are there any of the schedules or
- 6 workpapers that you could point me to that show that?
- 7 A. Workpaper WPC-1 that's sponsored by Greg
- 8 Campbell shows the deferral in September of 2008.
- 9 Q. I'm sorry, it's taking me some time. And
- 10 the company sought collection of 2008 deferred storm
- 11 costs in this proceeding when it filed its
- 12 application in December, 2012; is that correct?
- 13 A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. Why did the company wait over five years
- 15 to seek collection of these costs?
- 16 A. I don't -- I don't know the answer to
- 17 that. We would have had conversations over the years
- 18 about recovering that cost. In 2008, we entered
- 19 another stipulation in the ESP case that froze our
- 20 distribution rates through 2012 with the exception of
- 21 storm costs. I believe the OCC and the staff and
- 22 Kroger all signed that stipulation; and, therefore,
- 23 the company thought it had the authority to recover
- 24 storm costs in a separate rider. And the timing of
- 25 that was uncertain at that time.

1 Q. Who makes the decision -- I know you

- 2 spoke about -- we talked about who decides when to
- 3 seek deferral of O&M costs. Who decides when to seek
- 4 collection of costs? Are you part of that team?
- 5 A. That would involve me and my supervisor
- 6 at the time and the accounting folks and the
- 7 financial folks.
- Q. Is it fair to say if the Commission
- 9 allows the company to charge customers a carrying
- 10 cost, that the -- that any storm costs that customers
- 11 pay for will be at a higher cost because of the years
- 12 that any amounts were deferred?
- 13 A. I'm sorry. I might need that question
- 14 read back.
- 15 Q. There is probably a simpler way. Just
- 16 strike that question.
- 17 Is it fair to say that if a cost can be
- 18 collected from customers and there is an associated
- 19 carrying cost, that the longer that cost is deferred
- 20 the more cost it is to customers?
- 21 A. Yes. If -- if the company deferred a
- 22 cost and was permitted to recover carrying costs
- 23 associated with that cost, carrying costs represent
- 24 the company's lost opportunity cost so the carrying
- 25 cost is based on the cost of debt; and, therefore, it

1 represents the time value of money. So the company

- 2 could have sought recovery of dollars in 2008 and
- 3 would have received those dollars in 2008, but
- 4 because they waited the time value of money is
- 5 essentially applying as carrying cost.
- 6 Q. We can agree the decision to wait to seek
- 7 collection of any 2008 storm costs was the decision
- 8 of the company, correct?
- 9 MR. SHARKEY: Can I hear that again?
- 10 (Record read.)
- MR. SHARKEY: You can answer.
- 12 A. I agree that it's the -- that the company
- 13 can decide when it seeks to file, but to the extent
- 14 that the staff or the OCC or any other party wanted
- 15 the company to file earlier, they could have made a
- 16 recommendation, could have perhaps filed something at
- 17 the Commission to ask the company to seek recovery
- 18 sooner rather than later.
- 19 Q. So you think that's the responsibility of
- 20 the other parties?
- 21 A. I'm just suggesting that there was no
- 22 indication by any party that the company should have
- 23 requested sooner.
- Q. Would you agree that there's been
- 25 indication that the parties do not want to pay

1 carrying costs for storm costs that are deferred; is

- 2 that fair to say?
- 3 MR. SHARKEY: Objection, vague.
- 4 A. I'm sorry. What was the question?
- 5 Q. Well, in regard to the application in
- 6 2008, you recall that OCC opposed the company getting
- 7 carrying costs on any amounts that they were
- 8 permitted to defer.
- 9 A. I don't recall that --
- 10 Q. Do you recall --
- 11 A. -- just off the top of my head.
- 12 Q. Do you recall that in the 2012 deferral
- 13 case that OCC opposed carrying costs?
- 14 A. I would have to look back at the order,
- 15 whatever was filed in that case.
- 16 Q. Would you expect customer parties to
- 17 oppose carrying charges on storm costs?
- 18 A. I don't know that I would expect
- 19 anything.
- 20 Q. And when did the company determine the
- 21 three-year average in regard to the Commission's
- 22 decision on the 2008 storm costs? Is that something
- 23 you would do before you start -- excuse me. Let me
- 24 state that again. Strike that.
- 25 Did the company calculate a three-year

1 average in its application in 2008?

- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And what was that number?
- 4 A. I don't recall off the top of my head.
- 5 It would have been based on the previous three years.
- 6 MS. YOST: Can we go off the record for a
- 7 second?
- 8 (Discussion off the record.)
- 9 O. Talk about the 2012 deferral. Just a
- 10 second. I just found an exhibit I had in the wrong
- 11 file. I'm sorry, an exhibit -- the application in
- 12 the '08 case. I had it in the wrong file. Just a
- 13 second here.
- MS. YOST: I'm sorry. Could I have this
- 15 marked as OCC Exhibit E. Thank you.
- 16 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- MS. YOST: Let's go off the record.
- 18 (Discussion off the record.)
- 19 Q. Dona, if you could take a look at what
- 20 has been marked as OCC Exhibit E. Have you seen this
- 21 document before?
- 22 A. Yes.
- MS. YOST: Could we go off the record one
- 24 more time?
- 25 (Discussion off the record.)

- 2
- recognize it to be the company's application to seek

Q. And what is the document? Do you

- deferrals of storm costs in 2008? 3
- 4 A. It's the company's application in
- 5 08-1332-EL-AAM where the company proposes to defer
- 6 O&M expenses for Ike --

- 7 Can you read paragraph 3, please. Q.
- -- as well as the other '08 O&M costs. 8 Α.
- 9 Could you read paragraph 3. Q.
- 10 "The portion of the O&M expenses the Α.
- Company proposes to defer is the amount by which the 11
- 12 total O&M expenses associated with the Hurricane
- 13 Ike-related service restoration expenses and other
- 14 storms experienced in 2008 exceeds the three-year
- 15 average service restoration O&M expenses associated
- 16 with major storms."
- 17 Ο. And when was the Ike storm? Do you
- 18 recall?
- 19 Ike was in September of 2008. Α.
- 20 September, 2008. And we'll come back to Ο.
- that one. Thank you. In regard to the 2012 21
- deferral, I will mark those as exhibits. Could you 22
- 23 describe what your role was in seeking that deferral,
- 24 if any, in 2012.
- 25 The 2012 application to request deferral Α.

1 of 2012 storms would have either been drafted by

- 2 myself or someone on my staff in connection with
- 3 counsel.
- 4 Q. Do you recall drafting it?
- 5 A. I don't.
- 6 Q. Do you recall making the decision to
- 7 apply for the 2012 deferral?
- 8 A. I do recall after the derecho the company
- 9 discussed requesting deferral of storm costs
- 10 associated with the derecho.
- 11 Q. And at the time that the 2011 deferral
- 12 was requested from the Commission, the company had
- 13 not requested a deferral of 2011 storm costs; is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. That is correct.
- MS. YOST: Can I have marked as OCC
- 17 Exhibit F the finding and order from case
- 18 12-2281-EL-AAM.
- 19 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- Q. And have you seen this document before,
- 21 OCC Exhibit F?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And what was the carrying cost rate that
- 24 the company sought in its application?
- 25 A. In the 2012 application, in the 2012

1 deferral application in Case No. 12-2281-EL-AAM, the

- 2 company asked for a cost of debt of 5.86 as the
- 3 carrying cost.
- 4 Q. And what's your understanding of the
- 5 Commission's -- and I don't -- I will go ahead and
- 6 have OCC Exhibit G marked because there was an
- 7 application for rehearing and an entry on rehearing I
- 8 will give you too.
- 9 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- 10 A. I'm sorry. What was the question?
- 11 MS. YOST: Could you read it back.
- 12 (Record read.)
- 13 Q. Okay. What's your understanding of the
- 14 Commission's decision regarding the carrying charge
- on 2012 storm costs related to the I say derecho? I
- 16 don't know how to say it. Derecho? What is it?
- 17 A. I think it's derecho. Derecho.
- Q. Derecho, thank you.
- 19 A. I think in this entry on rehearing dated
- 20 February 13 of 2013 the Commission denied OCC's
- 21 application for rehearing regarding the cost of debt
- 22 and states to the extent OCC disagrees with the DP&L
- 23 implementation of carrying costs, they are able to
- 24 raise it in this case, which is the case before us
- 25 here, Case No. 12-3062-EL-RDR.

1 Q. And if I could turn your attention to

- 2 paragraph 9 on page 5 of OCC Exhibit G.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. Middle of that paragraph, do you see
- 5 where it says "the Commission finds that DP&L should
- 6 apply the, " do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Oh, I'm sorry. We'll start with -- let's
- 9 read from the beginning. Paragraph 9 states "The
- 10 Commission finds that OCC's application for rehearing
- 11 should be denied. The Commission found that, when a
- 12 new cost of long-term debt is approved, the carrying
- 13 costs should then be amended to reflect the newly
- 14 approved rate. The Commission finds that DP&L should
- 15 apply the newly approved cost of long-term debt to
- 16 the remaining unrecovered storm deferral from the
- 17 effective date of the new cost of long-term debt, if
- 18 approved in DP&L's pending ESP case." In regard to
- 19 that Commission finding in OCC Exhibit G, what is
- 20 your understanding of -- in regard to DP&L's most
- 21 recent Commission-approved cost of long-term debt in
- 22 an ESP proceeding?
- 23 A. DP&L's most recent ESP proceeding was
- 24 Case No. 12-426-EL-SSO and the stipulation -- I'm
- 25 sorry, the opinion and order in that case was issued

- 1 September 4 of 2013. And on page 15 it says that
- 2 "the Commission finds DP&L's ESP should be approved
- 3 for a term beginning January 1, 2014, and terminating
- 4 December 31, 2016." Therefore, DP&L's current ESP
- 5 beginning in January of '14 and, therefore, the
- 6 paragraph 9 that you read from on OCC Exhibit G
- 7 requires us to modify the carrying costs beginning
- 8 January 1 of '14 and we have done that and we have
- 9 contacted our accounting department and notified them
- 10 of the carrying cost change after January, '14.
- 11 Q. And because in the ESP proceeding,
- 12 12-426, the company requested the cost of long-term
- 13 debt of 4.93?
- 14 A. I would have to look it up. This entry
- on rehearing that's Exhibit G says it's 4.94 percent.
- 16 I'm assuming that's correct.
- 17 Q. So that is almost a point different than
- 18 the -- we don't have to argue over the math, but are
- 19 these schedules that are attached to the application
- 20 going to be updated to reflect the newer lower
- 21 carrying costs as of January 1, 2014?
- 22 A. We don't currently have any plans to
- 23 refile the schedules with that change, but we have
- 24 made the accounting change. We've notified our
- 25 accounting group that starting January of 2014 the

1 carrying costs should no longer be the 5.86, but it

- 2 should instead be the 4.94.
- 3 Q. For what amounts did you order the new
- 4 carrying charge to be applicable to?
- 5 A. Consistent with this order for any --
- 6 yeah, in paragraph 9 on page 5, about the middle of
- 7 the paragraph, it says "The Commission finds that
- 8 DP&L should apply the newly approved cost of
- 9 long-term debt to the remaining unrecovered storm
- 10 deferral from the effective date of the new cost of
- 11 long-term debt."
- MR. SHARKEY: Could we go off the record?
- 13 (Discussion off the record.)
- Q. So did the accounting change apply to the
- 15 2008 remaining storm deferrals?
- 16 A. It would apply to any unrecovered storm
- 17 deferral from the effective date of January 1.
- 18 Therefore, it applies to all deferrals from January 1
- 19 on to the extent we haven't deferred them.
- Q. Thank you. And you would also agree that
- 21 in the 2012 case in regard to the deferrals that the
- 22 Commission also mandated that any deferrals would
- 23 have to exceed the three-year average O&M expenses
- 24 associated with major storms?
- MR. SHARKEY: Which paragraph are you

- 1 referring to, Melissa?
- MS. YOST: Not a specific one.
- 3 Page 3, Exhibit G.
- 4 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, can I have that
- 5 question read back.
- 6 (Record read.)
- 7 A. I think this entry on rehearing in the
- 8 12-2281 case says that any 2012 deferral would need
- 9 to be reduced by the three-year average.
- 10 Q. And the application does not reflect that
- 11 the 2012 deferrals have been reduced by any
- 12 three-year average, correct?
- 13 A. I think the application -- the company's
- 14 application in this case reflects the 2012 total
- 15 storm costs while -- that was the deferral order
- 16 telling us to reduce the amount by the three-year
- 17 average. I think the company has the ability to
- 18 request the full recovery of the amount.
- MS. YOST: Read that again, please.
- 20 (Record read.)
- 21 Q. If a three-year average were to be
- 22 calculated in regard to the Commission's entry on
- 23 rehearing mandating one, what years would be used to
- 24 develop that average?
- 25 A. I think we did back out the three-year

1 average when we calculated the deferral. It's just

- 2 when the company filed this case seeking recovery of
- 3 the costs, we sought recovery of the full costs.
- 4 Q. And what three years were used to back
- 5 out a three-year average in regard to the deferral
- 6 for 2012?
- 7 A. It would have been all major storms
- 8 associated with '11, '10, and '09.
- 9 Q. Okay. Just to clarify the company is
- 10 seeking to recover a deferral amount for 2012 that is
- 11 larger than the amount it has deferred?
- 12 A. No. I would not say it that way. I
- 13 would say the company is seeking to recover all of
- 14 2012 major storm costs and that is different than the
- 15 amount of deferral.
- 16 O. Then why did the company seek a deferral?
- 17 A. The company would seek a deferral to --
- 18 it's an accounting mechanism to make sure that the
- 19 expense is incurred in the year that the revenue is
- 20 received. So in 2012, we incurred an expense, asked
- 21 the Commission for deferral authority so that we
- 22 could move it from an expense to a regulatory asset
- 23 and seek recovery of it in a future period.
- Q. Could you provide me with any Commission
- 25 precedent, PUCO rule, Ohio law that provides that you

1 can seek to collect more money from customers than

- 2 the amount that the Commission deferred --
- 3 MR. SHARKEY: Objection.
- 4 Q. -- in regard to storm costs?
- 5 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 6 legal conclusion. You can answer if you know.
- 7 A. I don't think that there is any
- 8 Commission order or precedent that says in order to
- 9 seek recovery of a cost, it must first be deferred.
- 10 Q. Is this a regular practice of the DP&L to
- 11 seek to collect more money than the PUCO approved it
- 12 to defer?
- 13 A. No. I think the company seeks to recover
- 14 costs that are prudently incurred, and it believes it
- 15 has the authority to seek recovery of those costs.
- 16 Q. Is the company seeking -- then why isn't
- 17 the company seeking the total amount of 2008 costs
- 18 that it -- that it incurred?
- 19 A. That's a good question. We have had a
- 20 number of discussions and internal meetings and such
- 21 to review our policies with storm recovery and those
- 22 have changed over time and in this filing we sought
- 23 only to recover the 2008 storm costs that we had
- 24 deferred.
- Q. You're talking about policies changing

1 over time, but you are seeking collection of the 2008

- 2 and 2012 deferred costs at the same time.
- 3 A. Yes. We put in this application that we
- 4 would only seek to recover the amount deferred plus
- 5 carrying costs for 2008 and for 2012 and '11. We
- 6 sought recovery of all the costs without a baseline
- 7 and the carrying costs associated with those.
- Q. And could you turn to page -- beginning
- 9 with G, we were looking at paragraph 9. We heard the
- 10 first part of the paragraph. Page 7 -- I'm sorry,
- 11 paragraph 7, paragraph 7 of G, we were talking about
- the 2008 deferrals, and the lower half of paragraph 7
- 13 states "Reducing DP&L's recovery of O&M expenses by
- 14 the three-year average of O&M expenses associated
- 15 with major storms is consistent with Commission
- 16 precedent, most notably Case No. 08-1332-EL-AAM. In
- 17 that case, DP&L applied for authority to defer, as a
- 18 regulatory asset, a portion of its O&M expenses
- 19 associated with restoring electric service to its
- 20 customers in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. DP&L
- 21 proposed to defer the amount by which the total O&M
- 22 expenses associated with the Hurricane Ike-related
- 23 service restoration expenses experienced in 2008
- 24 exceeded the three-year average service restoration
- 25 O&M expenses associated with major storms."

1 So would you agree that in this most

- 2 recent entry on rehearing as of February 13 of 2013,
- 3 the Commission again is reiterating that the company
- 4 only had authority to defer storm costs associated
- 5 with Ike in 2008?
- 6 A. No, I disagree. I think this is a
- 7 mischaracterization of what the company proposed to
- 8 defer. This says DP&L proposed to defer the amount,
- 9 blah, blah, blah of Ike. That isn't what we sought
- 10 to defer. What we sought to defer was all of 2008
- 11 storms reduced by a three-year average.
- Q. Would you agree that reading the
- 13 Commission's entries, the ones we have just read,
- 14 that the -- whether or not the company sought to
- 15 defer other 2008 storm costs, that the Commission was
- of the opinion that the only costs that the company
- 17 sought in 2008 were related to Ike; is that fair to
- 18 say?
- 19 A. I disagree. I think that the
- 20 Commission's order in the 2008 case allowed DP&L to
- 21 defer -- it approved its application. The
- 22 application was to defer all of 2008 including Ike
- 23 plus the three-year average.
- Q. Would you agree that it's ambiguous, that
- 25 the --

1 A. I would agree that the order could have

- 2 been written more clearly.
- Q. Fair to say -- go ahead and strike that.
- 4 Do you know what the deferred amount was
- 5 for the 2012 deferral based on the years 2010 --
- 6 excuse me, 2011, 2010, and 2009 that you just stated?
- 7 A. I'm sorry.
- Q. Let me strike that. That was confusing.
- 9 You stated that although the company did not
- 10 calculate a three-year major storm average in regard
- 11 to the 2012 storm costs it seeks to collect, that the
- 12 company had calculated a three-year average for the
- 13 purposes of the deferral of those storms, correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And you said that those years were 2011,
- 16 2010, and 2009, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know what that amounted to?
- 19 A. No, I don't.
- Q. Who would know that?
- 21 A. Greg Campbell.
- 22 Q. Thank you. If I could have you turn to
- 23 your testimony page 4, please.
- A. We're still on Exhibit A?
- 25 Q. Yes. Question 9, it says "Does DP&L have

- 1 Commission authority to seek recovery of storm
- 2 costs?" You indicate "Yes," and you talk about PUCO
- 3 Case No. 08-1094-EL-SSO. Could you please explain
- 4 your involvement, if any, in regard to that case?
- 5 A. Yes. I was involved in that case. I put
- 6 on testimony in that case and worked on the
- 7 settlement that resulted from that case.
- 8 Q. What issues did you testify to in that
- 9 case? Do you remember?
- 10 A. I don't know. '08 case --
- 11 Q. Let me simplify it, do you recall if the
- 12 company requested a storm rider in that case in its
- 13 application?
- 14 A. No. That was an ESP case. That was the
- 15 company's first ESP case so that dealt mostly with
- 16 generation and transmission-related rates. However,
- 17 the stipulation that resulted from that case that was
- 18 signed by staff and Kroger and OCC extended the rate
- 19 freeze through December of 2012 and permitted the
- 20 company to file a separate application to recover
- 21 storm costs.
- 22 MS. YOST: I would like to have marked
- 23 now OCC Exhibit H. It's the February 24, 2009,
- 24 stipulation and recommendation, and I also will say
- 25 that I do have up to Attachment E. I do believe this

1 has all of the attachments. But there might have

- 2 been tariffs attached so I just want to make that
- 3 clear.
- 4 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- 5 Q. And this is a stipulation and
- 6 recommendation that you're referencing that the
- 7 Commission approved that gives the company the
- 8 authority to seek recovery of storm costs?
- 9 A. This application -- or this stipulation
- 10 was the most recent stipulation but there were at
- 11 least three prior to this that also gave us the
- 12 authority to seek storm recovery.
- 13 Q. Three prior?
- 14 A. Stipulations.
- 15 Q. I guess what I'm speaking about is in
- 16 regard to the costs that the company is seeking in
- 17 this case, 2008, 2012, and 2011.
- 18 A. This is the most recent stipulation.
- 19 Q. Is it your -- well, in your testimony you
- 20 state in regard to the question "Does DP&L have
- 21 Commission authority to seek recovery of the storm
- 22 costs," I assume that question is specific to the
- 23 storm costs you're seeking in this case, which would
- 24 be for years 2008, 2011, and 2012; is that fair to
- 25 say?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And in regard to that question is this
- 3 stipulation and recommendation and the Commission
- 4 order approving the stipulation and recommendation
- 5 the only authority granting DP&L the right to seek
- 6 recovery of storm costs?
- 7 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 8 legal conclusion.
- 9 You can answer if you know.
- 10 A. I'm not sure I follow.
- 11 Q. Well, in response to this question on
- 12 page 4 of your testimony, line 9, you indicate -- the
- 13 only authority that you indicate is the stipulation
- 14 and recommendation that's in front of you and the
- 15 Commission order approving it, correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Do you know of any other Commission order
- 18 or entry that gives DP&L the authority to seek
- 19 recovery of storm costs and specifically in 2008,
- 20 2011, 2012?
- 21 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 22 legal conclusion.
- You can answer if you know.
- 24 A. I guess I am not seeing the distinction.
- 25 The company had at least four stipulations, rate

1 stipulations, from 1999 through 2008 where it had

- 2 frozen distribution rates, and in addition to the
- 3 frozen distribution rates, it had the authority to
- 4 seek cost recovery of storm damage.
- 5 Q. During the applicable terms of those
- 6 ESPs, correct?
- 7 MR. SHARKEY: Object. They weren't all
- 8 ESPs.
- 9 A. Each one states a specific timeframe over
- 10 which the distribution rates are frozen and some of
- 11 them specify when we can seek recovery of storm
- 12 costs.
- Q. Did any of those documents, we'll just
- 14 call them, that you're referencing give DP&L the
- 15 authority to seek recovery of storm costs incurred in
- 16 2008?
- MR. SHARKEY: We object. You are asking
- 18 her detailed questions about documents you haven't
- 19 placed in front of her. I would ask you if you are
- 20 going to cross-examine her about what those
- 21 stipulations say, you put them in front of her.
- A. The 1999 ETP case, which was Case No.
- 23 99-1687-EL-ETP, stipulation stated we would have
- 24 frozen distribution rates through 2006 with the
- 25 exception of storm damage expenses after 2003. The

- 1 2002 case, which was Case No. 02-2779-EL-ATA, a
- 2 stipulation that resulted from that case said that we
- 3 would have frozen distribution rates through 2008,
- 4 and it carried forward all the exceptions from the
- 5 ETP case in 1999 which included storm relief.
- In the '05 case, which was Case No.
- 7 05-276-EL-AIR, it carried forward a certain paragraph
- 8 from the '02 case which froze distribution rates with
- 9 the exception of storm damage through 2008. And then
- 10 we had the '08 case which was 08-1094-EL-SSO which
- 11 froze distribution rates through 2012 with the
- 12 exception of storm damage.
- 0. Okay. So the first case you cited was
- 14 02-2779; is that correct?
- 15 A. No. The first case was 99-1687-EL-ETP.
- Q. So is it your testimony that the
- 17 Commission order in Case 99-1687 authorizes DP&L to
- 18 seek recovery of storm costs incurred in 2008?
- 19 A. No. It's my testimony that that case
- 20 froze distribution rates through 2006 with the
- 21 exception of storm damage that we incurred after
- 22 2003.
- Q. Is it your testimony that the
- 24 Commission's opinion and order in 99-1687 gives DP&L
- 25 the authority to seek recovery of storm costs

- 1 incurred in 2011?
- 2 MR. SHARKEY: Object. You are asking her
- 3 questions about an opinion and order that you have
- 4 not placed in front of her.
- 5 You can answer the question if you know.
- 6 A. I'm sorry. I don't know what the
- 7 question was.
- 8 MS. YOST: Could you read it back.
- 9 (Record read.)
- 10 A. No. It's my testimony that the '99 case,
- 11 1999, 1687-EL-ETP, the stipulation that was approved
- 12 by the Commission in that case froze DP&L's
- 13 distribution rates through 2006 with the exception of
- 14 storm damage expenses that were incurred after 2003.
- Q. And is it your testimony that the
- 16 Commission's opinion and order in 99-1687 authorizes
- 17 DP&L to seek recovery of storm costs incurred in
- 18 2012?
- MR. SHARKEY: Same objection.
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. And I apologize, the second case you
- 22 stated, was that 02-2779?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Is it your testimony that -- and I can
- 25 break it down if the answers are different. Is it

1 your testimony that the Commission's opinion and

- 2 order in 02-2779 gives DP&L the authority to seek
- 3 recovery of storm costs incurred in 2008, 2011, and
- 4 2012?
- 5 MR. SHARKEY: Same objections.
- 6 A. I don't understand the question. I mean,
- 7 the 2002 stipulation, as I said, froze distribution
- 8 rates through 2008 with the exception of storm
- 9 relief.
- 10 Q. So can the company pursuant to that
- 11 order -- in regard to 02-2779, does that give the
- 12 company authority to seek recovery of storm costs
- 13 incurred in 2008?
- 14 A. I guess sort of, yes. We had frozen
- 15 distribution rates through 2008 according to that
- 16 stipulation with the exception of storm relief so at
- 17 that time it would have given us the authority to
- 18 seek recovery of storm damage whether that storm
- 19 damage occurred in 2003, '5, '6, '8, '12. There was
- 20 a whole series of stipulations that froze the
- 21 distribution rates with the exception of storm
- damage.
- Q. So '02, the Commission's opinion and
- order in 02-2779, gives the company the authority to
- 25 seek recovery of storm costs incurred in 2011?

- 1 MR. SHARKEY: Same objections.
- 2 A. It's not the only stipulation that was
- 3 out there, but if it was the only one standing, then,
- 4 yes, it would have.
- 5 Q. We're talking about the company filed to
- 6 seek recovery of storm costs December, 2012, correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And that application sought authority to
- 9 recover storm costs in 2008 -- strike that.
- 10 And that application sought to recover or
- 11 collect from customers storm costs from storms that
- 12 occurred in 2008 and 2012, correct?
- 13 A. No. The application filed in December of
- 14 2012 sought recovery of storms that occurred in 2008,
- 15 2011, and 2012.
- 16 Q. So I left out '11 and that's why you said
- 17 my answer was wrong.
- 18 A. Right.
- 19 O. So when the company filed the application
- 20 December, 2013 -- December, 2012, when it filed the
- 21 application, did the Commission's opinion and order
- 22 in 02-2779 give them that authority to seek recovery
- of storm costs incurred in 2008, 2011, and 2012?
- MR. SHARKEY: Same objections as earlier.
- 25 A. I don't think that it's a -- that

1 specific stipulation. Again, there were a series of

- 2 stipulations that were signed from 1999 through 2008
- 3 that all said DP&L's distribution rates would be
- 4 frozen with the exception of storm costs recovery.
- 5 Q. I appreciate that. I understand that
- 6 distribution rates have been frozen through several
- 7 agreements over some years, but you can at least
- 8 agree with me that in response to your testimony
- 9 filed with the application, that the only authority
- 10 you indicate that DP&L has from the Commission to
- 11 seek recovery of costs is the 08-1094 stipulation and
- 12 that opinion and order that approved it on page 4 of
- 13 13.
- 14 A. I reference only the 2008 stipulation in
- 15 my original testimony. However, in my supplemental
- 16 testimony I also discuss all of the cases, on page 8
- 17 of my supplemental testimony. It's actually the
- 18 question that starts on page 7, line 20. That talks
- 19 about -- the answer states, line 1, "DP&L, the PUCO
- 20 staff, and other intervenors have agreed several
- 21 times over the course of the last 15 years that
- 22 DP&L's distribution rates would be frozen, not
- 23 subject to an increase or a decrease." And "The last
- 24 such agreement took place in the ESP I stipulation,"
- 25 that was the '08 case, "which froze DP&L's

1 distribution rates through 2012 with the exception of

- 2 storm cost recovery."
- Q. Do you have a copy of the application in
- 4 this proceeding? I'm sorry, Dona, did you have a
- 5 copy?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Could you turn to the application first
- 8 page.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. Do you see anywhere in the application
- 11 that the company cites to 02-2279 for authority to
- 12 recover storm costs in this case from customers?
- 13 A. No, I don't.
- MS. TARKENTON: This is Tammy Tarkenton.
- 15 I'm sorry to interrupt.
- MS. YOST: Yeah, Tammy, we're here.
- MS. TARKENTON: Okay. I apologize.
- MR. SHARKEY: Go off the record.
- 19 (Discussion off the record.)
- Q. The stipulation and recommendation which
- 21 has been marked as OCC H, could you please turn to
- 22 page -- I am looking for the page you cite in your
- 23 testimony on page 4 -- page 10, I believe bottom of
- 24 page 10.
- 25 A. Okay.

1 Q. Paragraph 18 on page 10 is 18 subpart A

- 2 and B, that's what you have cited, it looks like, in
- 3 full in your testimony, correct?
- 4 A. Yes. That's what I intended.
- 5 Q. And we can agree that this stipulation
- 6 and recommendation is no longer in effect, correct?
- 7 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 8 legal conclusion.
- 9 You can answer if you know.
- 10 A. I don't know. There wasn't a subsequent
- 11 stipulation to take its place.
- 12 Q. I'm sorry?
- 13 A. There wasn't a subsequent stipulation to
- 14 take its place.
- Q. But isn't this -- but is it your
- 16 understanding this stipulation established an
- 17 electric security plan for the company?
- 18 A. It established an electric security plan
- 19 for the company that was in place from '09 through
- 20 2013.
- Q. Yes. And we're in 2014 so it's fair to
- 22 say that the terms and conditions of the electric
- 23 security plan from the 08-1094 case are not the terms
- 24 and conditions that the company must abide by; is
- 25 that fair to say?

1 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a

- 2 legal conclusion.
- 3 You can answer if you know.
- 4 A. I don't know.
- 5 Q. The rates for electric service that the
- 6 company is charging its customers for today were
- 7 approved in what proceeding?
- 8 A. It depends on what rates you're talking
- 9 about.
- 10 Q. Standard service offer rate.
- 11 A. The standard service offer rates that the
- 12 company is charging today in January of '14 were the
- 13 result of the Commission order in the '12 case,
- 14 12-426-EL-SSO.
- Q. Can you identify any terms or conditions
- 16 that the company is required today to apply within
- 17 OCC Exhibit H?
- 18 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 19 legal conclusion.
- 20 You can answer if you know.
- 21 A. I'm not sure I follow that.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Can you maybe reread the
- 23 question.
- 24 (Record read.)
- 25 A. I think a number of provisions that are

- 1 in this document still apply today.
- Q. And how do they still apply?
- 3 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 4 legal conclusion.
- 5 You can answer if you know.
- 6 A. I think the paragraph 15 that deals with
- 7 reasonable or unique arrangements must be filed with
- 8 the Commission for approval. I think that still
- 9 applies today.
- 10 Q. Pursuant to this agreement?
- 11 A. This agreement and case precedent and
- 12 Commission rules. I think that the paragraph that we
- 13 are talking about, paragraph 18, still applies today
- 14 because there is nothing else that's been issued by
- 15 the Commission telling DP&L to charge different
- 16 distribution rates.
- 17 Q. So you're saying the DP&L's distribution
- 18 rates are frozen?
- 19 A. No. I'm saying this paragraph still
- 20 applies, that its rates were frozen through 2012 with
- 21 the exception of complying with changes in tax or
- 22 regulatory laws and storm damage. So this talks
- 23 about what DP&L's distribution rates would be
- 24 charged. There's nothing in the most recent ESP that
- 25 talks at all about DP&L's distribution rates, what

1 they should be starting in '14 or any other aspect of

- 2 distribution rates.
- 3 Q. So let's turn back to the Commission
- 4 opinion and order from September 4, 2013, which we
- 5 marked as an exhibit. I believe that was exhibit --
- 6 we did mark it as an exhibit, didn't we? Actually
- 7 strike that. I believe that -- did we mark that as
- 8 an exhibit?
- 9 MR. SHARKEY: Which one?
- MS. YOST: The ESP III order.
- MR. SHARKEY: No, we did not.
- MS. YOST: Okay. Do that real quick.
- 13 And at this time I would like for the
- opinion and order in Case No. 12-426-EL-SSO be marked
- 15 as OCC Exhibit I.
- 16 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- 17 Q. You've definitely seen this exhibit,
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you remember earlier when we were
- 21 talking about the carrying cost rate that got
- 22 approved in this case and you read that the term of
- the ESP would start January 1, 2014?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. What page was that?

- 1 A. Page 15.
- Q. Thank you. And on page 15 it says "The
- 3 Commission finds that DP&L's ESP should be approved
- 4 for a term beginning January 1, 2014, and
- 5 terminating" December 36 -- excuse me, "December 31,
- 6 2016." Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And would you agree that the previous ESP
- 9 was terminated as of January 1, 2014?
- 10 A. I don't know that it was terminated. The
- 11 rates that were authorized and approved in the ESP I
- 12 went from 2009 through 2013, December 31, 2013.
- Q. So if you don't know if it's terminated,
- 14 do you ensure that the company is complying with the
- 15 terms and conditions in the ESP from the 08-1094
- 16 case?
- 17 A. I'm not sure which provisions you're
- 18 talking about.
- 19 Q. Any provision.
- 20 A. I don't understand the question.
- 21 Q. Is it part of your job responsibilities
- 22 to ensure that the company complies with its -- the
- 23 terms and conditions of the approved ESP; is that
- 24 fair?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. So when you're doing your job in 2014,

- 2 part of your job is to understand -- understand what
- 3 terms and conditions that the company has to comply
- 4 with; is that fair?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And what terms and conditions does the
- 7 company have to comply with in 2014 in regard to the
- 8 stipulation and recommendation in the 08-1094 case?
- 9 A. Well, the Commission order in the 2012
- 10 case did not establish distribution rates so I guess
- 11 that's why I have that section of the code in my
- 12 book. I think Ohio Revised Code 4909.03 states that
- 13 rates, charges, classifications are fixed by the PUCO
- 14 and shall be enforced and prima facie lawful for two
- 15 years from the day they take effect or until changed
- 16 or modified by the Commission. So I don't think that
- 17 the Commission has changed or modified DP&L's
- 18 distribution rates by issuing the order in the 2012
- 19 case.
- Q. And wouldn't you agree that DP&L's
- 21 distribution rate -- distribution rates were
- 22 established in the 1991 distribution rate case,
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Yes. The current distribution rates were
- 25 established in the 1991 -- were the result of the

- 1 1991 case, unbundled in the 1999 case.
- Q. And they are still in effect?
- A. And they are still in effect because we
- 4 had a series of stipulations that we signed with the
- 5 staff and the OCC and several other intervenors from
- 6 1999 until 2008 that froze our distribution rates
- 7 with the exception of storm costs.
- 8 Q. And DP&L will be filing a distribution
- 9 rate case soon, correct?
- 10 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. And I will
- 11 instruct you not to answer.
- 12 She is not required to disclose DP&L's
- 13 future plans.
- Q. If DP&L were to file a distribution rate
- 15 case, if that application were approved -- strike
- 16 that.
- We can agree that the distribution rates
- 18 that Dayton Power and Light are charging today were
- 19 established in the 1991 and the 1999 unbundling case,
- 20 correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And nothing in the 12-426 ESP proceeding
- 23 changed those rates, correct?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. And nothing in the 08-1094 case changed

- those rates either, correct?
- 2 A. The 08-1094 case froze DP&L's
- 3 distribution rates through 2012 with the -- with two
- 4 exceptions, one of which was storm damage expense.
- 5 Q. Okay. Let's talk about that and I am
- 6 going to talk about the provision that you have cited
- 7 in your testimony which is also OCC H so paragraph
- 8 18, page 10 of OCC H, states that, as we spoke,
- 9 "DP&L's distribution base rates will be frozen
- 10 through December 31, 2012." And do you agree that
- 11 the 08-1094 stipulation indicated that that
- 12 distribution rate freeze did not limit DP&L's right
- 13 to seek emergency rate relief pursuant to 4909.16,
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. Did DP&L ever seek emergency rate relief
- 17 pursuant to 4909.16 of the Revised Code during the
- 18 term of the ESP in the 2008 case?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. Do you agree that the 2008 stipulation
- 21 did not limit DP&L's right to apply to the Commission
- 22 for approval of a separate rider to recover the cost
- 23 of complying with changes in tax or regulatory laws
- 24 and regulations effective after the date of the
- 25 stipulation?

1 A. The '08 stipulation allowed for the

- 2 company to file a separate application to recover
- 3 costs associated with either, A, the cost of
- 4 complying with changes in tax or regulatory laws and,
- 5 B, the cost of storm damage.
- Q. And so my answer is yes?
- 7 A. Yes, I'm sorry.
- Q. I was just reading it straight. I'm not
- 9 trying to be tricky at all. Did the company during
- 10 the term of the '08 ESP apply to the Commission for
- 11 approval of a separate rate rider to recover any of
- 12 the following costs -- and we can break them down
- 13 separately -- the cost of complying with changes in
- 14 tax or regulatory laws?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 O. And regulations effective after this
- 17 stipulation?
- 18 A. Not that I recall off the top of my head.
- 19 Q. So the provision 18 granted DP&L the
- 20 right to seek emergency rate relief. It didn't
- 21 require DP&L to seek emergency rate relief, correct?
- 22 A. It allowed us to seek emergency rate
- 23 relief.
- Q. But you didn't do it during the term of
- 25 the 2008 ESP, correct?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. And we can agree that the company did
- 3 seek approval of separate rate riders to defer storm
- 4 costs during the term of the ESP, correct?
- 5 A. The company sought a request to defer the
- 6 storm costs during the ESP, but we also sought
- 7 recovery of the storm cost during the ESP because we
- 8 filed in December of 2012 which was effectively still
- 9 part of the ESP I timeframe.
- 10 Q. Would you agree because that term was
- 11 extended by Commission order?
- 12 A. No.
- MR. SHARKEY: I'm sorry, there wasn't any
- 14 question, I don't think.
- MS. YOST: You're right. What?
- MR. SHARKEY: I am objecting. There
- 17 wasn't a question.
- MS. YOST: Could you read back my
- 19 question and answer.
- 20 (Record read.)
- 21 MS. YOST: I'm sorry. Are you objecting?
- MR. SHARKEY: I guess I was objecting
- 23 because there wasn't a question that you had asked.
- 24 I don't think that was phrased as a question.
- MS. YOST: Oh, okay. Well, she answered.

- 1 Just move on?
- 2 MR. SHARKEY: Your record is what it is
- 3 so you can keep going.
- 4 MS. YOST: I didn't know if you had
- 5 another objection.
- Q. My dates are wrong, correct, the 2008 ESP
- 7 per the terms of the stipulation were to end
- 8 December 31, 2012, correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. Thank you. Sorry about that. A lot of
- 11 time has passed. And you would agree that the 2008
- 12 stipulation did not grant DP&L the right to recover
- 13 storm costs from customers, correct?
- MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 15 legal conclusion.
- 16 You can answer if you know.
- 17 A. I believe the 2008 stipulation allowed
- 18 DP&L to apply to the Commission for approval through
- 19 a separate rate to recover storm costs.
- MR. SHARKEY: Go off the record.
- 21 (Discussion off the record.)
- 22 (Record read.)
- Q. Would you agree that the 2008 stipulation
- 24 does not guarantee recovery of storm costs from
- 25 customers?

1 A. It doesn't say that it guarantees cost

- 2 recovery.
- 3 Q. And the current ESP does not contain a
- 4 storm cost recovery rider, correct?
- 5 A. The Commission's order in the most recent
- 6 ESP which would be the 2012 case does not permit
- 7 storm recovery nor does it deny storm recovery. It's
- 8 silent.
- 9 Q. Does it establish a storm cost recovery
- 10 rider?
- 11 A. No, but it doesn't deny one either.
- 12 Q. But the company never requested a storm
- 13 cost recovery in the 12-426 case, correct?
- 14 A. Correct. That's because the 12-426 case
- is an ESP case which deals with generation rates in
- 16 general.
- 17 Q. Are you aware of whether AEP has a storm
- 18 cost rider?
- 19 A. I believe they do.
- Q. And do you know where they receive their
- 21 approval for that storm cost rider?
- 22 A. I do not.
- MS. YOST: Off the record.
- 24 (Discussion off the record.)
- 25 Q. On page 4 of your testimony the very --

- 1 close to the bottom, line 24, you talk about "seek
- 2 incremental recovery of storm costs." Just to
- 3 clarify you use "recovery." Does that mean collect
- 4 from customers?
- 5 A. Yes, I believe it means collect from
- 6 customers.
- 7 Q. And when you use the word "incremental"
- 8 on line 24, and you can read the whole sentence if
- 9 that helps you, but what does incremental mean to you
- in regard to storm costs as it's used?
- 11 A. The way I intended that word in my
- 12 testimony is that distribution rates were frozen
- 13 through '12 and the company could seek recovery above
- 14 and beyond current distribution rates to recover its
- 15 storm costs.
- 16 O. So incremental means any costs that the
- 17 company incurs above base distribution rate?
- 18 A. The way that it was intended there was to
- 19 demonstrate that distribution rates were frozen
- 20 through '12 with the exception of storm costs, and
- 21 those storm costs would be recovered incremental to
- 22 DP&L's distribution rates.
- 23 Q. So anything above distribution rates --
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. -- is an incremental cost.

1 A. Incremental recovery is what it says, and

- 2 so it's incremental recovery of storm costs.
- 3 Q. So it's incremental recovery not
- 4 incremental costs?
- 5 A. That's correct. So we were permitted to
- 6 recover our distribution rates which were our base
- 7 distribution rates, and incremental to that we were
- 8 allowed to recover storm costs.
- 9 Q. Oh, I see. I had that backwards. Have
- 10 you heard the phrase incremental costs?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. What does that mean to you?
- 13 A. It depends on how it's used, in what
- 14 context.
- 15 Q. If -- if the company was permitted to
- 16 collect from customers incremental costs resulting
- 17 from mutual assistance, is that -- or am I going
- 18 somewhere?
- 19 A. I am not understanding.
- Q. Does DP&L -- yes. You guys are a member
- 21 of mutual assistance agreements. You go help other
- 22 utilities with storm restorations.
- A. Yes, that's correct.
- Q. If you sent your crews to another state
- 25 to help during storm restoration and the Commission

- 1 said that you could collect incremental costs
- 2 resulting from that mutual assistance from customers,
- 3 what would that mean to you?
- 4 A. I don't understand that level of
- 5 thinking. If we were to send our crews to help out
- 6 another utility, the cost of us sending those crews
- 7 would be borne by that utility, so I don't know how
- 8 the Commission would grant us authority to recover
- 9 that cost. It's not our -- at that point it's not
- 10 our cost; it's the other utility's cost.
- 11 Q. Yeah, strike that. I missed something.
- 12 Think of an example. I won't hold up on this. So
- 13 the phrase incremental cost, do you have a general
- 14 understanding of what that means?
- 15 A. Again, it depends on how it's used and
- 16 what context. This right here says incremental
- 17 recovery.
- 18 Q. Yeah, I see that after you explained
- 19 that. I was thinking incremental costs. Okay.
- 20 Let's talk about the 2011 deferral. Were you
- 21 involved in the decision to include a request to
- 22 defer and collect 2011 storm costs from customers in
- 23 this case?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And what was your role in that decision

- 1 making?
- 2 A. Again, any time the company decides to
- 3 request deferral of costs there's discussions that
- 4 occur with the accountants and the financial folks,
- 5 the service operations folks, and I would have been
- 6 involved in those discussions.
- 7 O. And we talked about the fact that the
- 8 2012 storm costs -- strike that.
- 9 And we talked about the fact that the
- 10 company sought deferral of 2008 storm costs before it
- 11 sought deferral of 2011 storm costs, correct?
- 12 A. Yes. The company sought deferral of 2008
- 13 storm costs before 2011.
- Q. Earlier you said that the decision when
- 15 to seek deferral of costs depends on -- strike that.
- 16 Why did DP&L wait nearly 15 months after
- 17 the last major storm in 2011 to seek a deferral?
- 18 A. We sought deferral of our 2011 storm
- 19 costs as part of our filing in this case so the
- 20 company had made a decision to apply for recovery of
- 21 its storm costs and it decided that 2011 was also a
- 22 major storm event year and we should seek deferral of
- 23 those costs as well.
- Q. At what point after a storm does the
- 25 company know whether it was a major storm event?

1 A. I think it depends. The definition of a

- 2 major storm has changed over time. Bryce Nickel and
- 3 his folks would be the people who would determine
- 4 whether or not a storm was a major storm or not. I
- 5 think that timing depends on what's occurring at the
- 6 time, what kind of storm it was, how we're measuring
- 7 whether it was a major/nonmajor storm.
- 8 Q. Isn't a quick determination of whether a
- 9 storm was a major storm needed in regard to the
- 10 Commission's rules on reliability?
- 11 A. Yes. The Commission's rule for
- 12 reliability establishes what is a major storm and
- 13 what is not, I mean the criteria for determining
- 14 that.
- Q. And there's no reason why the company
- 16 could not have sought deferral of 2011 storm costs
- 17 with its application to defer 2012 defer -- storm
- 18 costs, correct?
- 19 A. That's correct. I am not aware of any
- 20 Commission rule or requirement with respect to
- 21 requesting deferral of costs and the timing of that
- 22 and the timing of recovery of those costs.
- Q. Was the company not aware that it had
- 24 what is alleged to be major storms in 2011 until
- 25 2012?

- 1 A. No. I'm sure we were aware that we had
- 2 major storms in 2011 prior to requesting deferral in
- 3 December of 2012. However, there were many things
- 4 going on at the Commission during 2011 such as the
- 5 acquisition of DP&L -- AES's acquisition of DP&L.
- 6 Q. Was there a decision before DP&L was
- 7 acquired by -- what is it?
- 8 A. AES?
- 9 Q. Thank you. Was there a decision before
- 10 DP&L was acquired by AES to not seek deferral of 2011
- 11 storm costs?
- 12 A. I don't believe that decision -- I don't
- 13 believe there was ever a decision not to seek
- 14 recovery of 2011 storm costs.
- 15 Q. On page 5 of your testimony, question
- 16 line 8 indicates "Why has the Company asked for a
- 17 ruling on that portion of the application by
- 18 February 8, 2013?" What was the -- are you familiar
- 19 with what that request was by February 8, 2013?
- 20 A. Yes. That request was included in our
- 21 application in this case because the company had
- 22 plans to file its SEC reporting documents by the
- 23 beginning of February, 2013. And so we were asking
- 24 the Commission to essentially expedite their decision
- 25 to allow us to defer those costs.

- 1 Q. And that did not happen in this case,
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. That did not happen in this case. That's
- 4 still an open request.
- 5 Q. And fair to say that the PUCO does not
- 6 require any deferred amounts to be included on the
- 7 company's filings with the Securities and Exchange
- 8 Commission?
- 9 A. I'm sorry. I didn't follow that, or
- 10 maybe I should have it read back.
- 11 Q. I can rephrase. It might be easier. The
- 12 PUCO does not mandate that deferrals are included on
- 13 the company's filings with the Securities and
- 14 Exchange Commission, correct?
- 15 A. That's correct. The Commission does not
- 16 require it, but accounting standards require that
- 17 items be probable for recovery in order to be
- 18 recorded as a regulatory asset.
- 19 Q. Isn't that a limitation rather than a
- 20 requirement? Isn't that -- can you answer it that
- 21 way? Or I'll take it further.
- 22 A. I don't understand.
- 23 Q. You were indicating that the accounting
- 24 standards a deferral has to be probable for recovery
- 25 before it can be recorded, correct?

1 A. That's correct, accounting standards

- 2 require that something be probable for recovery
- 3 before it is recorded as a regulatory asset.
- 4 Q. Isn't that a limitation that it has to be
- 5 probable for recovery rather than a requirement that
- 6 it be recorded on SEC filings?
- 7 MR. SHARKEY: Objection to form.
- 8 You can answer.
- 9 A. I don't understand the distinction
- 10 between the limitations versus the requirement. I
- 11 mean, the company elected to record it as a
- 12 regulatory asset, and in doing so it sought the
- 13 Commission's authority to defer it as a regulatory
- 14 asset.
- Q. And once you -- you were talking earlier
- 16 about costs have to be probable for recovery before
- 17 you request deferral. Do you recall that?
- 18 A. I think I said they knew to be probable
- 19 for recovery before they're recorded, not necessarily
- 20 before they are requested.
- Q. And why would the company want to include
- 22 approved deferrals on their filings with the
- 23 Securities and Exchange Commission?
- A. As we discussed before, the deferral
- 25 is -- the accounting effect of a deferral is taking

1 an expense from a given period and recording it as an

- 2 asset, and then in the future period when revenues
- 3 are received related to that expense, the costs are
- 4 expensed at the -- at the rate that they are
- 5 recovered.
- 6 Q. Would you agree that there is some risk
- 7 in re -- strike that.
- 8 Are you aware of any utilities who have
- 9 been granted deferrals and denied -- and later denied
- 10 recovery of the deferred amounts?
- 11 A. Not off the top of my head.
- 12 Q. Have you monitored the Duke storm case at
- 13 all?
- 14 A. I watch it and folks that report to me
- 15 watch those cases, yes.
- 16 Q. And I don't mean to make it a current
- 17 case. The Duke storm case in regard to their
- 18 expenses for Ike, do you recall the outcome of that
- 19 case?
- 20 A. I believe they had a large disallowance
- 21 because their costs were not prudently incurred.
- 22 Q. And would you agree that they had
- 23 received approval to defer those storm costs related
- 24 to Ike?
- 25 A. I don't know if they were deferred or

- 1 not.
- Q. Would you expect that they requested a
- 3 deferral?
- 4 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for
- 5 speculation.
- 6 A. I don't know.
- 7 Q. And how much is the company requesting in
- 8 carrying charges if it receives the deferral in
- 9 regard to 2011's storms?
- 10 A. That would be in our filing. I don't
- 11 know that it's a certain line item in our filing, but
- 12 I would have to do some calculations to determine
- 13 that amount.
- 14 Q. I don't want to make you do a calculation
- 15 so we can talk about what is the requested carrying
- 16 cost amount in regard to the 2011 request to defer
- 17 storm costs?
- 18 A. It would be contained on Schedule B-1,
- 19 line 23, but those are the carrying costs of all O&M
- 20 prior to March of 2012.
- Q. Can you tell what the requested carrying
- 22 cost rate for the 2011 deferral is? Would that be --
- A. It would be the same as all others, 5.86.
- Q. And so we could -- is that requested
- 25 deferral WPC-3?

1 A. WPC-3 contains carrying costs from the

- 2 '11 storm that starts in March of '13, and then it
- 3 also contains carrying costs on storm costs incurred
- 4 December of 2012, two sets of carrying costs there.
- 5 Q. Why are these carrying costs calculated
- 6 beginning December, 2012?
- 7 A. We submit the carrying costs into what
- 8 had been -- what had been recorded already prior to
- 9 our filing, and then we tried to project what the
- 10 carrying costs would be on a going-forward basis.
- 11 Q. What do you mean recorded prior to your
- 12 filing?
- 13 A. From an accounting perspective. When
- 14 the -- for example, the 2008 storm costs were
- 15 incurred, they were recorded on the company's books
- 16 as a regulatory asset, and carrying costs were
- 17 applied from that point forward so when we filed this
- 18 case in December of '12, there were some carrying
- 19 costs that had been already recorded on the company's
- 20 books and records from an accounting perspective.
- Q. So carrying costs --
- 22 A. I believe Greg Campbell sponsors the
- 23 schedules dealing with the carrying costs that were
- 24 recorded from an accounting perspective, and I
- 25 sponsored the schedules from the going-forward

- 1 calculation.
- 2 Q. And he can answer all my questions on
- 3 these matters so you don't have to?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Thank you. Talk a little bit about the
- 6 storm rider. Is it the company's proposal that the
- 7 storm cost recovery rider would be for storms --
- 8 storm costs incurred after 2012?
- 9 A. I'm sorry. Are you looking at a certain
- 10 section of my testimony?
- 11 Q. No. I am just looking at the words
- 12 "storm cost recovery rider" on page 8 but not really.
- 13 Let me put it a different way. Under the company's
- 14 proposal would they be able to -- would the company
- 15 be able to collect storm costs incurred in 2013?
- 16 A. It was the company's intention when it
- 17 filed its application in December of 2012 that we
- 18 would be recovering past storms and then there would
- 19 be a mechanism in place to recover future storms as
- 20 well.
- 21 MS. YOST: I'm sorry. Could you read her
- 22 answer back.
- 23 (Record read.)
- Q. When you say past storms, do you mean
- 25 2008, 2011, or 2012, or additional years?

1 A. When we filed the application in December

- of '12, we were seeking recovery of 2008, 2011, and
- 3 2012, and then I'm not sure if it was in the
- 4 application or not, but we assumed that we would have
- 5 a storm rider going forward to track storm costs in
- 6 future years.
- 7 Q. On page 11 of your testimony, question 9,
- 8 indicates "Why did you not include all of 2012 O&M
- 9 costs associated with major storm" -- excuse me,
- 10 "major event storms?" And you talk about the filing
- 11 being in December, 2012, and when the company files
- 12 to reset the storm cost recovery rider in 2013, the
- 13 total 2012 major storm costs will be known and
- 14 included at that time. Do you know if the company
- 15 incurred additional major event storm costs that are
- 16 not reflected in its application for 2012?
- 17 A. We did not have any additional major
- 18 storms in 2012 besides the derecho.
- 19 O. So the company does not intend to seek
- 20 any other 2012 storm costs through a rider other than
- 21 those related to the derecho?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. And in regard to question 14 about 2009,
- 24 2010 storm-related O&M costs, does the company intend
- 25 to -- strike that.

1 Did the company incur any major event

- 2 storm costs for 2009?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know how much that was?
- 5 A. I believe that amount was shown on my
- 6 Exhibit B to my supplemental testimony, major storm
- 7 costs in '9, 774,841.
- 8 Q. And might as well stay there. Did the
- 9 company incur any major storm event costs in 2010?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And how much would that be?
- 12 A. 302,919.
- Q. Does the company intend to collect 2009
- 14 major storm costs through the storm costs recovery
- 15 rider?
- MR. SHARKEY: I'm sorry. Could I hear
- 17 that question again.
- 18 (Record read.)
- MR. SHARKEY: Sorry for interrupting.
- 20 A. The company's plans did not include
- 21 seeking recovery of 2009 and 2010 storm costs.
- 22 Q. So the company, as far as you know, does
- 23 not intend to seek collection of those costs?
- A. As far as I know today, yes.
- MR. SHARKEY: Go off the record.

- 1 (Discussion off the record.)
- Q. I want to talk about your statement on
- 3 page 11, top of 11. You talk about O&M costs from
- 4 three years of storms backed out -- were O&M costs
- 5 from the three years of storms backed out of the 2008
- 6 total number? So in the application what did you do
- 7 differently in regard to the three-year average
- 8 compared to the three-year average for the deferrals?
- 9 A. I'm not sure I understand the question.
- 10 What did we do differently?
- 11 Q. Yes.
- 12 A. From what?
- O. For the three-year average. Were O&M
- 14 costs for the three years of storms backed out of the
- 15 2008 total number? Are you talking about for the
- 16 three-year average?
- 17 A. What this question and answer is relating
- 18 to is that the company was seeking deferral of all
- 19 2008 storms and we subtracted out the average of
- 20 three-year major storm costs from the prior three
- 21 years. So it was the total 2008 costs including
- 22 Hurricane Ike, and make sure we're talking about the
- 23 same thing, all costs -- all the storm costs in 2008
- 24 minus the three-year average of major storms.
- Q. And the three -- three-year average of

1 major storms was the average of '11, '10, and '09?

- A. No. 2008, we are talking about 2008
- 3 costs in --
- 4 Q. I'm sorry, yes.
- 5 A. And this was the three-year average of
- 6 '7, '6, and '5.
- 7 Q. '7, '6, and '5, thank you.
- 8 A. And we subtracted out the 2005 ice storm
- 9 because the company had sought and received recovery
- 10 of that cost.
- 11 Q. And the company subtracted out the 2005
- 12 ice storm in the calculation for the deferrals also?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. So the same methodology was used to defer
- 15 them in regard -- and the same methodology was used
- 16 in the application in regard to the collection that
- 17 the company seeks?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And you state that, we talked about it a
- 20 little bit earlier, that the company's proposal has
- 21 evolved. What has made the company's proposal
- 22 evolve?
- 23 A. Questions and responses that we have
- 24 provided to the staff and intervenors in these cases.
- 25 If -- if the staff's interpretation is correct of the

1 2008 deferral order and the company was only allowed

- 2 to recover a single storm such as Ike, it does not
- 3 make logical sense to back out the average of
- 4 three-year costs. So through those discussions and
- 5 trying to identify what was in base rates versus what
- 6 was not we -- when we filed this case, the
- 7 methodology that we thought was appropriate was that
- 8 we would have no baseline and no costs backed out
- 9 because we don't believe there are any costs in our
- 10 current base rates.
- 11 Q. Are you aware of the 2005 case where the
- 12 company determined that the baseline would be \$3.6
- 13 million?
- 14 A. Yes. That was at the request of staff.
- Q. And you state "Thus, the Company used the
- 16 new methodology for 2011 storm-related O&M" on --
- 17 again on page 11, question starting on line 1. Do
- 18 you see that at the very end?
- 19 A. Yes. Starting with 2011 storms, the
- 20 company's new methodology was that we don't believe
- 21 we have any costs in our current base rates and,
- therefore, nothing should be backed out of storms on
- 23 a going-forward basis.
- Q. Didn't you testify earlier that is --
- 25 that the company is seeking all of its cost for 2012

- 1 also?
- 2 A. Yes, 2011 and '12. Starting with '11,
- 3 '11 and '12.
- 4 Q. So it's the company's position that
- 5 storm-related operation and maintenance major --
- 6 strike that.
- 7 It's the company's position that they
- 8 can -- that the company can collect from customers
- 9 major storm operation and maintenance costs even if
- 10 they never received authority to defer those costs?
- 11 A. Yes. There's nothing in the Commission
- 12 rules or precedent that says first the company must
- 13 seek deferral and then it can seek recovery.
- 14 Q. In the future will the company no longer
- 15 seek deferrals of O&M costs?
- MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for
- 17 speculation. I am going to instruct you not to
- 18 answer. It's a legal strategy that will be made in a
- 19 future case.
- MS. YOST: What's your objection why she
- 21 can't answer? Is it legal strategy or is it
- 22 speculation?
- MR. SHARKEY: Yeah. It's both
- 24 speculation and it's a legal strategy, legal decision
- 25 that will be made in a future case.

- 1 Q. Do you believe that there must be
- 2 multiple storms in a given year for the three-year
- 3 average offset to be applicable?
- 4 A. No. I believe the three-year average
- 5 should not be applicable at all.
- 6 Q. Then explain what you were saying in
- 7 regard to staff's position and actually OCC's
- 8 position that the company only received authority to
- 9 defer 2008 storm costs related to Ike in regard to
- 10 the three-year average.
- 11 A. I believe what I said was that I don't
- 12 think that it makes logical sense to subtract a
- 13 three-year average from a single storm. The company
- 14 incurred storm costs. They were prudently incurred.
- 15 Ike was a major event. And it had absolutely nothing
- 16 to do with the previous three years of storms.
- 17 O. Does it make sense to subtract a
- 18 three-year average from a year of cost recovery
- 19 regarding multiple storms?
- 20 A. I don't understand the question.
- Q. You said it did not make sense to
- 22 subtract a three-year average from a single storm.
- 23 My question is is it reasonable to subtract a
- 24 three-year average from a request for storm costs in
- 25 a year where there were multiple major storm events?

1 A. It makes more sense to me to subtract out

- 2 a three-year average from a year in which you have
- 3 the total storm costs, but it makes no sense to me to
- 4 subtract out a three-year average from a single storm
- 5 which had nothing to do with the previous three
- 6 years. That storm occurred; it was a major event.
- 7 The company did everything it could to efficiently
- 8 and effectively restore service. Those costs were
- 9 prudently incurred, and the company should be
- 10 permitted to recover that cost.
- 11 Q. Do you -- what is your understanding of
- 12 the function of the offset of the three-year average
- 13 of storm costs?
- 14 A. Quite frankly I'm confused by it. I
- 15 think the intent by the staff was to reflect that
- 16 some level of storm cost was included in base rates,
- 17 but as you can see in my testimony, I do not believe
- 18 there were any major storm costs included in base
- 19 rates.
- 20 Q. What kind of storm costs were included in
- 21 base rates?
- 22 A. It's very difficult to say because in
- 23 1991 was -- was -- that case was resolved by a
- 24 stipulation. It was a black box stipulation. There
- 25 is very limited information about what -- what

1 assumptions were made about those -- this level of

- 2 rates. There's nothing that says what level of storm
- 3 cost is or is not included in that case.
- 4 Q. What is your understanding of the
- 5 Commission's order in regard to the 2008 and 2012
- 6 deferrals requiring an offset of the three-year storm
- 7 cost average?
- A. I don't know what the Commission's
- 9 thinking is. You would have to ask the staff.
- 10 Q. Do you understand the Commission is
- 11 concerned, that there are concerns, OCC has concerns,
- 12 that absent a baseline over a three-year average that
- 13 there would be double collection of storm costs from
- 14 customers? Do you understand that?
- MR. SHARKEY: Are you saying the
- 16 existence would -- there would be double recovery or
- 17 that OCC is concerned there would be a double
- 18 recovery?
- MS. YOST: Read that back.
- 20 (Record read.)
- Q. Let me strike that. Do you understand
- 22 the concern there could be double collection of storm
- 23 costs from customers if there is not a three-year
- 24 average offset?
- 25 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. It's not clear

1 whether you are asking her whether she understands

- 2 parties are concerned or whether that may actually
- 3 happen.
- 4 You can answer the question.
- 5 A. I understand that that's OCC's position
- 6 that there could be double recovery. However, as I
- 7 state in my testimony, starting on page 14, I do not
- 8 believe that there are any major storm costs in
- 9 DP&L's 1991 rates because those costs would have been
- 10 extraordinary items and would have been excluded due
- 11 to the normalization adjustments that happen through
- 12 a rate case.
- Q. And you would agree that double
- 14 collection of costs of customers is not a good thing,
- 15 right?
- 16 A. It's not the company's intention to
- 17 double recover costs.
- 18 Q. Is the double collection of costs from
- 19 customers something that should be avoided?
- 20 A. Again, it's not the company's position to
- 21 double recover costs. We don't know and you don't
- 22 know and the staff doesn't know what level of costs
- 23 were included in the 1991 rate case, but because of
- 24 the normalization process through a rate case, I do
- 25 not believe there are any major storm costs included

- 1 in our base rates.
- 2 Q. You believe that the company would have
- 3 agreed to a stipulation that provided them zero
- 4 dollars to recover from major storm events? That's
- 5 your testimony?
- 6 A. My testimony is that I do not believe
- 7 there are any major storm costs in our base rates
- 8 because all we have is the information that we have
- 9 from the 1991 rate case. Those items would have been
- 10 excluded as extraordinary items. If there was an
- 11 extraordinary storm in the test year, that would have
- 12 been excluded as part of the test year.
- 13 Q. So the company would agree that in its
- 14 next rate case regarding distribution rates that they
- 15 should not be given any money for major storm damage
- in its base rates; is that correct?
- MR. SHARKEY: I am going to object and
- 18 instruct you not to answer. You don't need to
- 19 disclose what the company would or would not agree to
- 20 in a settlement, in negotiation, or in a distribution
- 21 rate case.
- MS. YOST: Could you read it again,
- 23 please. That's not what I asked.
- 24 (Record read.)
- 25 MR. SHARKEY: That was the question and

- 1 the instruction stands.
- Q. Would you agree that a utility should not
- 3 be allowed to collect major storm costs in base
- 4 rates?
- 5 A. I think that if a utility has a storm
- 6 cost recovery rider that is ongoing, the storm costs
- 7 should be recovered through that rider. It does not
- 8 make logical sense to me that you would have some
- 9 storm costs in your base rates and some storm costs
- 10 in rate recovery through a separate rider. There's
- 11 no purpose in that.
- 12 Q. Has the company ever sought -- it's been
- 13 a while actually. I won't go back that far because
- 14 it predates you.
- So major storm costs should not be
- 16 collected from customers through base rates if there
- is a storm cost recovery mechanism in place?
- 18 A. It is -- it is my position today DP&L
- 19 does not have a distribution rate case in front of
- 20 it, but it's my position today that there's no reason
- 21 to bifurcate storm costs into base rates and through
- 22 a storm rider. You could have a storm rider that
- 23 recovers all the storm costs.
- Q. So the company's proposal in this case is
- 25 to have a storm rider that collects capital costs,

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 3 Q. And you discuss the company is permitted
- 4 to collect capital costs in a storm rider, page 7,
- 5 line 13, correct?
- 6 A. Yes. Oh, line 13? No.
- 7 Q. Somewhere. Hold on.
- 8 A. Line 1, page 7, line 1.
- 9 Q. Yes. And you're discussing -- I'm sorry.
- 10 It's page 7, line 13. "Did the Commission allow for
- 11 capital cost recovery associated with storms for the
- 12 Company's 2005 storm rider?" And you said, "Yes, it
- 13 did, "correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And you agree that the company was
- 16 permitted to collect those costs because of a
- 17 stipulation in that case, right?
- 18 A. No. There was no stipulation in the '05
- 19 case. There was a Commission order that allowed for
- 20 cost recovery consistent with the company's amended
- 21 application.
- Q. Could you look at OCC Exhibit C which is
- the stipulation and recommendation from the 99-1867
- 24 case.
- 25 A. Okay.

1 Q. Page 3 -- I'm sorry, yeah, it is page 3.

- 2 Isn't this the case that established the mechanism
- 3 that was received in the 2005 case?
- 4 A. I would have to review the '05 case
- 5 because I'm not sure of the timing. We had an '05
- 6 stipulation, Case No. 05-276-EL-AIR, and that may
- 7 have governed the '05 storm case.
- 8 Q. We can agree that the stipulation in
- 9 99-1687 states that "The base electric distribution
- 10 rates unbundled and described above will remain the
- 11 same through December 31, 2006. After December 31,
- 12 2003, such distribution rates can be adjusted by an
- 13 application under Ohio Revised Code 4909.18 to
- 14 reflect the cost of complying with," and it goes on
- 15 and says "and relief from storm damage expenses."
- 16 And this is -- with this exception the distribution
- 17 rate in effect at the end of 2003 will continue in
- 18 effect for years 2004, '5, and '6.
- 19 So you don't know whether this is the
- 20 underlying mechanism for the storm rider that
- 21 collected capital costs that you are referring to in
- 22 your testimony?
- A. Well, this is the '99 case and since '99,
- 24 we had an '02 case and we also had an '05 case so I'm
- 25 not sure. I would have to review the timing of the

1 2005 storm case and when it was filed and what

- 2 stipulation was governing at that time.
- Q. What's the '05 case number you are
- 4 referring to?
- 5 A. 05-276-EL-AIR.
- 6 Q. Are you aware of 05-1090?
- 7 A. 05-1090 is the storm case from the '05
- 8 case -- from the '05 storm. I would have to review
- 9 the 2005 276-EL-AIR case stipulation to determine if
- 10 it was in place at the time that the 05-1090 case was
- 11 filed.
- 12 Q. Okay. In regard to Exhibit C, page 3.
- MR. SHARKEY: Which is Exhibit C?
- MS. YOST: It's the stipulation from the
- 15 99-1687.
- 16 Q. We can agree this stipulation required
- 17 any relief from storm damage expense to be requested
- 18 with an application under Ohio Revised Code 4909.18?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And we can agree that the stipulation in
- 21 regard to DP&L's 2008 case did not have a requirement
- 22 that an application under 4909.18 had to be filed?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- Q. Are you responsible for the storm cost
- 25 allocation to customer classes?

1 A. Yes. That's part of the schedules I

- 2 sponsored.
- 3 Q. What kind does the company propose in its
- 4 application in regard to cost allocation?
- 5 A. The company proposed in its application
- 6 to calculate the revenue requirement, I believe, to
- 7 recover it over three years and distribute a -- an
- 8 annual amount based on distribution revenues
- 9 including customer charged revenues from the period
- 10 October, '11, through December -- I'm sorry, through
- 11 September, 2012.
- 12 Q. So the allocation proposed by the company
- 13 to customer classes is based on distribution revenues
- 14 initially; is that correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. And why did the company choose to
- 17 allocate those costs using distribution revenues?
- 18 A. I don't recall. Likely because they had
- 19 to do with storm costs and storm costs are generally
- 20 distribution related.
- Q. Could the company allocate costs to
- 22 customer classes based on kilowatt-hours?
- 23 A. Yes, it could.
- Q. Is there any problems with the proposal
- 25 to allocate costs based on kilowatt-hours that you

- 1 can think of?
- 2 A. Allocating cost to kilowatt-hour would
- 3 assign more of the storm costs to the industrial
- 4 customers and they would have a lot of kilowatt-hour
- 5 volume of distribution level sales. And that may
- 6 disproportionately assign storm costs to customers
- 7 who may or may not have actually incurred storm
- 8 damage.
- 9 Q. Couldn't that happen whether or not it's
- 10 allocated based on distribution revenue?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. You read the staff's audit report in this
- 13 case?
- 14 A. Yes.
- MS. YOST: I would like to mark the audit
- 16 report of the PUCO staff filed January 3 as OCC
- 17 Exhibit J.
- 18 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- 19 Q. Could you turn to the very last page
- 20 where they have the recommendations. In regard to
- 21 recommendation No. 2 that the amount be recovered on
- 22 a per customer bill, not per kilowatt-hour or
- 23 kilowatt, do you know what the staff is proposing in
- 24 regard to cost allocation based on that statement?
- 25 A. I believe that that means that as far as

1 rate design goes, once the costs are allocated to the

- 2 tariff class the cost within the tariff -- that's
- 3 assigned to the tariff class should be divided by the
- 4 number of bills in that tariff class.
- 5 Q. Do you know how staff is proposing the
- 6 cost be allocated based on their comments or the
- 7 Staff Report?
- 8 A. I don't recall seeing anything in the
- 9 audit report about cost allocation.
- 10 Q. So you see No. 2 as a rate design, not a
- 11 cost allocation statement?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Does the company have a policy in regard
- 14 to how much money a day can be spent for food
- 15 allowances for internal employees during storm
- 16 restoration efforts?
- 17 A. Not that I'm aware of. It would be
- 18 difficult to apply a cap, so to speak, on an
- 19 individual during a storm restoration because
- 20 oftentimes there are only one or maybe one or two
- 21 restaurants that are available for folks who are
- 22 restoring service to eat at. Sometimes there's only
- 23 one restaurant in the area that has electricity.
- Q. And so there should be no limitation on
- 25 how much employees can spend per day for food during

- 1 storm restoration?
- 2 A. That's not really my area of expertise.
- 3 That's probably a better question for Bryce.
- 4 Q. Okay. Does the company have a policy
- 5 when employees travel how much they can spend for
- 6 food?
- 7 A. No, it does not.
- 8 Q. Does the company have a policy in regard
- 9 to how much they will pay contractors for food during
- 10 storm restoration?
- 11 A. I don't know.
- 12 Q. Are you considered a salaried employee?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you normally work more than 40 hours a
- 15 week?
- 16 A. Depends on the projects and topics that
- 17 we are working on but, yes, on occasion.
- Q. Out of a typical month, four-week month,
- 19 how many weeks out of the month do you work more than
- 20 40 hours?
- 21 A. Again, it depends on what -- what's going
- 22 on. If you want to talk about the ESP case, we were
- 23 in Columbus for three solid weeks so I worked a lot
- 24 more than 40 hours those weeks.
- 25 Q. How many hours do you think you worked

- 1 each week during the ESP case?
- 2 A. Easily 12-hour days.
- 3 Q. The weekends too?
- 4 A. Sometimes. Probably not 12 hours during
- 5 the weekends but some hours on the weekends.
- 6 Q. Did you get any incentive pay or overtime
- 7 pay for that work?
- 8 A. No, I did not. That's part of my job
- 9 description and part of my duties expected of me, I
- 10 suppose, because I'm the head of the rates
- 11 department, and I am expected to be at the case and
- 12 sit through the entire proceeding.
- Q. Would you -- do most DP&L salaried
- 14 employees work more than 40 hours a week?
- MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for
- 16 speculation. You can answer if you know.
- 17 A. I don't know how many do.
- Q. OCC Exhibit D, which is the 2008 finding
- 19 and order --
- 20 A. You mean the deferral case?
- Q. Yes, page 2, the very bottom, "It is,
- 22 therefore, ordered, that" -- the Commission states
- 23 "that the application by DP&L to modify accounting
- 24 procedures to defer incremental O&M costs related to
- 25 the September 14, 2008, windstorm service restoration

1 expenses with carrying costs as set forth in findings

- 2 (4) thru (6) is approved." What does "incremental
- 3 O&M costs" mean to you in that context?
- 4 A. In that context incremental O&M costs
- 5 mean to me that it was the amount that exceeds the
- 6 three-year average.
- 7 Q. Would you agree that a utility should not
- 8 be permitted to collect nonincremental O&M storm
- 9 costs from customers?
- 10 A. I think it's up to the Commission to
- 11 determine what the utility is permitted to recover
- 12 and whether or not those costs are incremental.
- 13 O. Should a utility be permitted to recover
- 14 costs related to storm restoration efforts that it is
- 15 already collecting through base rates?
- 16 A. Again, it is my position that the company
- 17 does not have any major storm costs included in base
- 18 rates. And I think that the company should be
- 19 permitted to recover prudently incurred storm costs
- 20 consistent with Commission orders and opinions and
- 21 stipulations that have been signed over the years.
- 22 Q. My question is not specific to DP&L. If
- 23 a company -- in general if a company is collecting
- 24 major storm costs, restoration costs in base rates,
- 25 should it be permitted to collect those same costs

- 1 through a storm cost recovery rider?
- 2 A. We are working off of your hypothetical
- 3 question. If there were storm costs included in base
- 4 rates, a utility should not be permitted to recover
- 5 those same costs through a separate rider if that's
- 6 what the question was.
- 7 Q. Yes.
- 8 A. But that's if there were any costs
- 9 included in base rates.
- 10 Q. Have you reviewed the company's 1991
- 11 application filed in the distribution case?
- 12 A. I have read the 1991 application over the
- 13 last 20 years. I don't recall when the last time was
- 14 that I read it.
- Q. Have you read it in the last year?
- 16 A. Not that I recall.
- 17 Q. Have you read it in the last five years?
- 18 A. Probably.
- 19 Q. Are you aware of any other -- any utility
- 20 in Ohio that's permitted to collect capital costs
- 21 associated with storm restoration efforts through a
- 22 storm recovery rider?
- 23 A. I'm not aware of any other Ohio utility
- 24 collecting capital costs through a storm rider, but I
- 25 am aware of other utilities collecting capital costs

1 through separate incremental riders so outside of a

- 2 regular distribution rate.
- Q. Does DP&L have any riders that collect
- 4 distribution capital costs?
- 5 A. Not at this time. The company was
- 6 seeking to recover capital costs through this case
- 7 through a separate rider.
- 8 Q. Since 1991, has the company had any
- 9 distribution riders that collected capital costs?
- 10 A. No. Oh, I take that back. The storm
- 11 costs, the '05 storm costs, the 05-1090 case we
- 12 collected storm costs and capital through that rider.
- 13 Q. Do you know what the total collected in
- 14 terms of capital costs?
- 15 A. No, I don't. I have to go back and look
- 16 at that.
- 17 Q. Is there any type of filing that you
- 18 could direct us to that would have that information
- 19 publicly available?
- 20 A. That would be in the '05 case, 1090.
- Q. On page 10 of your testimony, towards the
- 22 very bottom of the page, the end of line 21 it says
- 23 "Finally, approximately 4.8 million of O&M from the
- 24 2012 Derecho storm was included in the rider." What
- was the total O&M for the 2012 derecho?

1 A. I do not think I have that right here in

- 2 front of me. I have the amount deferred, but I am
- 3 not sure if I have the total amount of the derecho.
- 4 0. What was the amount deferred?
- 5 A. That No. 4.8, it's on Schedule C-1, line
- 6 9, 4.763244.
- 7 Q. Is it your understanding that the costs
- 8 incurred for the 2012 storm was more than 4.8?
- 9 A. I believe that it was, but I don't know
- 10 that I have anything in front of me that can show
- 11 that. Oh, I know where that is. Oh, no, it's not on
- 12 there. I don't think I have anything in front of me
- 13 that shows what the total amount was for the 2012
- 14 derecho.
- Q. And do you know why the company did not
- 16 include the total amount with the filing of its
- 17 application?
- 18 A. I believe we did. I just can't locate it
- 19 right now. I would have to spend some time to look
- 20 through this.
- 21 Q. Do you know why the full amount would not
- 22 have been included in the rider?
- 23 A. I believe that it was, the full amount
- 24 was included in the rider.
- Q. Is 4.8 the full amount?

1 A. I thought that the 4.8 was just the

- 2 deferral.
- 3 Q. I am -- my questions are in regard to
- 4 your statement that finally approximately 4.8 million
- of the O&M from the 2012 storm was included in the
- 6 rider.
- 7 A. Yes, because that's walking through
- 8 Schedule C-1 and that 4.8 is the amount that's on
- 9 Schedule C-1.
- 10 Q. Is the company seeking more than 4.8
- 11 million for the 2012 storm?
- 12 A. Again, I would have to find it here. I
- don't see it right in front of me.
- Q. Actually if you looked at page 11 of your
- 15 testimony, 13 -- line 11, "When the Company files to
- 16 reset the storm cost recovery rider in 2013, the
- 17 total 2012 major event storm costs will be known and
- 18 included at that time."
- 19 A. Yeah. The intent of that was to say we
- 20 were filing this case in 2000 -- in December of 2012,
- 21 and I didn't know if there was going to be another
- 22 ice storm or something else that came up after we
- 23 filed the case that wasn't already reflected in this
- 24 case.
- 25 Q. So that statement was not about the June,

- 1 2012, storm?
- 2 A. No.
- Q. Page 12, 13, in regard to your testimony
- 4 on E-1, what costs were included in the calculation
- 5 of a residential customer's typical bill if the
- 6 application was approved?
- 7 A. The cost of a residential bill would have
- 8 been assigned as part of the rate design schedules
- 9 that were on Schedule A-1. So in Schedule A-1 we
- 10 calculate revenue requirement -- well, we take out
- 11 revenue requirement that's assigned to residential
- 12 customers divided by kilowatt-hours and get to a rate
- of 0.002778 per kilowatt-hour, and we have taken that
- 14 and applied it to 750 kilowatt-hours to get a typical
- 15 bill. A typical bill increase of \$2.08.
- 16 Q. Does a typical residential customer use
- 17 750 kilowatt-hours in the Dayton service territory?
- 18 A. We've written that calculation a number
- 19 of times, and it's probably more like 800 and
- 20 something. It changes over time.
- 21 Q. So then the dollar increase based on the
- 22 company's proposal wouldn't affect it --
- A. When we say typical bill, we use 750
- 24 because that is what the Commission states on its
- 25 website.

1 Q. Are there any costs that the company is

- 2 seeking in its application that are not included in
- 3 the calculation to determine what the increase would
- 4 be?
- 5 A. I don't think so. When we filed the
- 6 application, it was effective as of December of 2012.
- 7 Now, we are sitting here in January of 2014 so there
- 8 have been additional carrying costs incurred and
- 9 calculated on deferred balances. We tried to project
- 10 those costs in the application. So we would have to
- 11 true those up to make sure that the calculations were
- 12 correct if our application was approved as filed.
- 13 Q. Did the company incur any major storms in
- 14 2013?
- 15 A. In 2013, I do believe we did, uh-huh.
- 16 Q. Do you know the approximate costs?
- 17 A. I don't know off the top of my head.
- 18 Q. On page 13 of your testimony, line 3,
- 19 towards the end it starts "The Company." You state
- 20 that "The Company has Commission authority to seek
- 21 incremental recovery of these costs through the 2008
- 22 ESP stipulation." What do you mean by incremental
- 23 recovery?
- A. That's what we talked about before.
- 25 Incremental to current distribution rates, the 2008

1 stipulation and previous stipulations to that stated

- 2 that our distribution rates would be frozen with the
- 3 exception of storm cost recovery and that the company
- 4 can seek a separate rider to recover that cost, and
- 5 so incremental recovery means recovery above and
- 6 beyond current distribution rates.
- 7 Q. And, again, you rely on the 2008
- 8 stipulation for that authority, correct?
- 9 A. The 2008 stipulation was in effect and
- 10 applicable when we filed this case in December of
- 11 2012.
- 12 Q. And that's what you're citing to on page
- 13 13, correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And if I could have you turn to that
- 16 stipulation, please, the 2008 stipulation. I'm
- 17 sorry, I just lost my exhibits. Beginning on page
- 18 10.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And I guess it goes on to 11 in regard to
- 21 paragraph 18 which has subsections A and B. You
- 22 would agree that nowhere in paragraph 18 does the
- 23 word "incremental" appear, correct?
- A. Nowhere in that paragraph does the word
- 25 incremental appear but the paragraph, the words in

1 the paragraph, state that DP&L's distribution rates

- 2 are frozen through 2012, and the company may seek a
- 3 rate recovery rider that is incremental to recover
- 4 storm costs.
- 5 MS. YOST: It's 5:30 now. I need a quick
- 6 restroom break, and then we can start the other
- 7 section, but I still kind of want to stop at 6.
- 8 MR. SHARKEY: Go off the record.
- 9 (Recess taken.)
- 10 Q. In regard to your supplemental testimony
- 11 which has been marked as OCC Exhibit B, could you
- 12 please describe your role in developing this
- 13 testimony.
- 14 A. Yes. I drafted the testimony and shared
- 15 it with counsel and with the same folks that I listed
- 16 on the first set of testimony.
- 17 Q. And the purpose of this testimony is to
- 18 respond to staff's recommendations contained in their
- 19 January 3 audit report?
- 20 A. Yes. And the other purposes that's
- 21 listed on page No. 1, lines 9 through 14, which would
- 22 be in response to the staff's audit report and
- 23 address DP&L's historical revenue requirements and
- 24 demonstrate why staff imposing new conditions or
- 25 restrictions on storm recovery is inconsistent with

1 our rate agreements signed by the staff and other

- 2 parties to this proceeding.
- 3 Q. And who reviewed and provided comments on
- 4 your draft testimony who is not an attorney?
- 5 A. The same people that I listed on the
- 6 first one.
- 7 Q. And did I ask you about are there any
- 8 changes that's going to be made in regard to your
- 9 testimony or exhibits?
- 10 A. The only change I had is grammatical.
- 11 It's on page 5, line 3. It should have said "based
- 12 on the Commission order in Case No." blah, blah,
- 13 blah.
- Q. Order singular?
- 15 A. Yeah, order singular.
- 16 Q. Did you have any changes to any of the
- 17 schedules that you are supporting?
- 18 A. No, I don't.
- 19 Q. Did you have any changes to any of the
- 20 workpapers that you are supporting?
- 21 A. No, I don't.
- MS. YOST: Should we go off the record?
- 23 (Discussion off the record.)
- Q. And on page 1 of your testimony you state
- 25 that -- you address DP&L's historical distribution

1 revenue requirements. Why did you include this in

- 2 your testimony?
- 3 A. I included it in my testimony because the
- 4 Commission staff's audit report in this case and in
- 5 the comments filed in June of '13 recommended that
- 6 the Commission deny DP&L's recovery of 2008 and 2011
- 7 storm expenses based on the company's past historical
- 8 earnings and O&M levels.
- 9 Q. And in regard to lines -- continuing on
- 10 to 12 and 13, you talk about staff imposing new
- 11 conditions. What are the new conditions that you're
- 12 referring to?
- 13 A. The new conditions that I'm referring to
- 14 are what I just stated, that in the June, 2013,
- 15 comments and in the staff audit report the Commission
- 16 staff recommends that the Commission deny recovery of
- 17 2008 and 2011 storms because the company did not
- 18 spend the same level of O&M that was included in our
- 19 1991 rates and in addition to that the company's
- 20 earnings in 2008, I suppose they are referring to.
- Q. Do you -- do you believe that staff's
- 22 recommendation is based on only the 2008 earnings?
- 23 A. It's difficult to tell, but on page 2 of
- 24 their audit report the staff states "Additionally,
- 25 the Company's rate of return has been substantially

1 higher than which" -- "than that which was allowed in

- 2 the last rate case in 1991." And so those are new
- 3 conditions placed on the company after stipulations
- 4 were signed. This permitted the company to have
- 5 frozen distribution rates and seek recovery of storm
- 6 costs.
- 7 Q. And on line 13 when you talk about
- 8 "restrictions on storm recovery," what are you
- 9 speaking to?
- 10 A. What I just stated which is the staff is
- 11 recommending that we not be permitted to recover
- 12 prudently incurred storm costs in 2008 and 2011.
- Q. On page 2 of your testimony you speak to
- 14 that "The Company should be made whole." What do you
- 15 mean by that statement? Line 3.
- 16 A. I mean that the company is permitted per
- 17 the stipulations signed by the company and the staff
- 18 and the OCC and Kroger to recover storm costs in
- 19 addition to current base rates and there's nothing in
- 20 any of those stipulations that say that the company
- 21 must first spend a certain level of O&M and neither
- 22 does it say that the company cannot recover storm
- 23 costs if it's rate of return exceeds a certain level.
- 24 So they should be made whole and be permitted to
- 25 recover all of their storm costs that were prudently

- 1 incurred.
- Q. Is it your opinion that -- well, let me
- 3 ask you that. Where -- you just said all storm costs
- 4 that are prudently incurred. Where does it say that
- 5 those costs have to be prudently incurred?
- 6 A. That is a general requirement by any --
- 7 through any rate-making proceeding before the
- 8 Commission that costs are first deemed prudent before
- 9 they are recoverable.
- 10 Q. So would you agree that the stipulation,
- 11 the 2008, prohibits seeking collection from -- strike
- 12 that again.
- Would you agree that the 2008 stipulation
- 14 prohibits the company from seeking approval to
- 15 collect imprudent costs?
- 16 A. No. I believe the 2008 stipulation
- 17 allows the company to seek approval of storm costs in
- 18 addition to its current frozen distribution rates.
- 19 Q. Would you agree that the 2008 stipulation
- 20 does not address the actual collection of costs?
- 21 A. I'm not sure I understand what you mean
- 22 by that.
- Q. The 2008 stipulation speaks to seeking
- 24 approval.
- 25 A. Yes, that's what we discussed before. It

1 says we can seek approval. It does not have any

- 2 additional information besides that.
- 3 Q. Your next sentence you talk about the
- 4 Commission recognizes that Hurricane Ike was a severe
- 5 weather event that fell outside the normal scope of
- 6 storms. What are you speaking of in regard to was
- 7 that a Commission order? Press release? What are
- 8 you talking about in that regard?
- 9 A. There are a number of orders that the
- 10 Commission issued at the time, whether it's in DP&L's
- 11 case or Duke's case or AEP's case dealing with Ike
- 12 and recognizing that it was a severe weather event.
- 13 I believe we were called into the Commission to
- 14 explain how and when and why we were -- we restored
- 15 service. I believe that we had similar conversations
- 16 with the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, and so I believe
- 17 the staff of the Commission as well as the OCC
- 18 recognized that Hurricane Ike was a severe weather
- 19 event.
- 20 Q. You speak that a disallowance of
- 21 prudently incurred storm costs would punish the
- 22 company, and you speak to good faith efforts in those
- 23 storm costs. Is that a standard in restoration
- 24 efforts, they have to be in good faith?
- 25 A. No. I'm just saying that the company

1 conducted itself in good faith to restore service to

- 2 those customers as quickly and as efficiently and
- 3 safely as possible.
- 4 Q. We discussed earlier that the 2008
- 5 stipulation merely provided the company the
- 6 opportunity to seek recovery of storm costs which it
- 7 did. And No. 2 you say that not allowing collection
- 8 of certain costs would violate the Commission order.
- 9 Can you show me a paragraph that you are referring to
- 10 that would be violated? And it's OCC Exhibit H,
- 11 please. You know, you are actually speaking to the
- 12 order which I have here. Here it is. I'm sorry, I
- 13 only have one copy.
- 14 A. That's okay. I have a copy.
- MS. YOST: Could you please mark this as
- 16 OCC Exhibit K.
- 17 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- 18 Q. Okay. So what you have in front of you,
- 19 which is OCC Exhibit K, is the Commission opinion and
- 20 order dated June 24, 2009; is that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And could you show me the Commission --
- 23 provision of the Commission order that you're
- 24 speaking to that would be violated if the company is
- 25 not permitted to collect all the costs it seeks from

- 1 customers.
- 2 A. The order says on -- on page 13 "Ordered,
- 3 That the Stipulation presented in these proceedings
- 4 be adopted." So this Commission order adopted the
- 5 stipulation. The stipulation said that DP&L's
- 6 distribution rates would be frozen with the exception
- 7 of storm costs, that the company may seek to recover
- 8 those storm costs, and denying our ability to recover
- 9 those costs would violate that agreement.
- 10 Q. Did anyone per -- prohibit DP&L from
- 11 seeking approval to recover storm costs?
- 12 A. No. But it's like allowing someone to do
- 13 something and then still denying it later is the same
- 14 thing as not permitting them to seek recovery of it.
- Q. Well, wouldn't you agree if the company
- 16 wants certain costs, they specify they will collect a
- 17 specific amount of costs?
- 18 A. I'm not sure I followed that.
- 19 Q. The 2008 stipulation did not in any
- 20 way -- we talked about this before -- guarantee that
- 21 the company could collect storm costs, correct?
- 22 A. The 2008 stipulation did not guarantee
- 23 that the company could recover storm costs, but it
- 24 permitted the company to seek recovery and to
- 25 outright just disallow it without reviewing the

1 prudency of the costs or even considering the

- 2 company's request, I believe, is a violation of that
- 3 agreement.
- 4 Q. You do agree that the staff has reviewed
- 5 the prudencies -- prudency of the storm cost for
- 6 2008, 2011, 2012, correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And I'm sure they served numerous data
- 9 requests upon the company, correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And the staff report memorializes the
- 12 findings of that review, correct?
- 13 A. The staff report is the Commission's
- 14 staff's report of its review of the prudency, and I
- 15 believe that it found that the 2008 and 2011 storm
- 16 costs, some of those costs were prudently incurred.
- Q. What's your understanding of the, as you
- 18 state on lines 9 and 10, "the significantly excessive
- 19 earnings test"?
- 20 A. I'm sorry, you're on what page?
- 21 Q. Same page, 2.
- 22 A. And your --
- 23 THE WITNESS: Could the question be read
- 24 back?
- 25 (Record read.)

1 A. There was a section in my testimony where

- 2 I explain what the SEET is. Here it is. On page 4
- 3 of my testimony starting at lines 3 and 4, I discuss
- 4 what the SEET is and when it applies, and essentially
- 5 the significantly excessive earnings test was
- 6 developed in Senate Bill 221 that was passed by the
- 7 General Assembly in 2008 and effective in January of
- 8 2009; and, therefore, the SEET did not exist in 2008
- 9 and did not apply to DP&L.
- 10 Q. Have you been involved in any SEET --
- 11 when I say SEET, I mean significantly excessive
- 12 earnings test. Have you been involved in any SEET
- 13 proceedings?
- 14 A. Yes. The company filed its first SEET
- 15 proceeding in 2013.
- 16 Q. And did this go to hearing?
- 17 A. No, it did not.
- 18 Q. It was settled with the staff?
- 19 A. It was settled, yes.
- Q. Did you provide testimony?
- 21 A. No, I did not.
- Q. What happens when a utility -- when the
- 23 Commission determines that a utility's earnings are
- 24 significantly excessive?
- 25 A. According to the provision of Senate Bill

- 1 221, if the Commission finds that a utility's
- 2 earnings are excessive, they may order a refund to
- 3 ratepayers. But, again, the SEET did not apply to
- 4 DP&L until 2012 per stipulations that were signed by
- 5 both the staff and OCC and Kroger.
- 6 Q. And are you aware of what costs are
- 7 subject to refund if there is a SEET determination?
- 8 A. I'm not understanding your question. I
- 9 don't know how you refund costs to customers. You
- 10 refund revenues to customers through rates or rate
- 11 reduction.
- 12 Q. Is there a limit on how much can be
- 13 refunded to customers if there is a finding of
- 14 significantly excessive earnings?
- 15 A. I don't know.
- 16 Q. Do you know how the Commission determines
- 17 what expenses collected from customers may be
- 18 refunded?
- 19 A. Again, I'm confused by your term that
- 20 expenses are refunded to customers.
- Q. What in your opinion is refunded to
- 22 customers?
- 23 A. In a SEET proceeding, which this is not
- one of them, the Commission may find that the company
- 25 has had excessive earnings and may order a refund of

1 revenues to customers and that would be done through

- 2 a credit or a reduction in rates.
- 3 Q. Do you know -- you would agree that the
- 4 company has not collected the amounts that it has
- 5 received approval to defer for storm costs in 2008
- 6 and 2012?
- 7 A. I didn't understand the question.
- 8 MS. YOST: Would you read it back,
- 9 please.
- 10 (Record read.)
- 11 A. Through this filing the company is
- 12 seeking recovery of those costs and because the
- 13 Commission has not yet issued an order in this case,
- 14 the company has not recovered these costs from
- 15 customers.
- Q. And would you agree that you cannot
- 17 refund money that was never collected?
- 18 A. Yes, I would agree that you cannot refund
- 19 money that was never collected. I would also agree
- 20 that the SEET test does not apply in this case
- 21 because this is not a SEET proceeding and why the
- 22 Commission staff is looking back at past earnings or
- 23 O&M spent is not -- does not make sense to me.
- Q. Do you understand that in administering
- 25 the SEET test the Commission has to look -- strike

- 1 that.
- 2 Is it your understanding that the SEET
- 3 can only amount to refunds of money back to
- 4 customers -- actually strike that.
- 5 Are you familiar with the methodology
- 6 that the Commission uses to determine the SEET
- 7 threshold?
- 8 A. Yes, I'm generally familiar.
- 9 Q. What is that methodology?
- 10 A. That the Commission looks at return on
- 11 equity amounts that the utility is earning and
- 12 compares those to comparable businesses that are
- 13 faced with the same financial risk and have the same
- 14 capital structure and that the Commission should
- 15 consider the capital requirements of the utility.
- 16 Q. Okay. In your opinion would the
- 17 authority to establish a storm collection rider be a
- 18 provision that is included in Dayton's ESP?
- 19 MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 20 legal conclusion.
- 21 You can answer if you know.
- 22 A. I think that to the extent a storm rider
- 23 was a provision in an ESP and -- and if that utility
- 24 was subject to the SEET test, it would be a --
- 25 something that would be factored into a SEET test,

1 but the storm cost recovery that we have here is not

- 2 part of our current ESP. It was part of the ESP I in
- 3 the 2008 stipulation but there's nothing in the
- 4 current ESP that mentions the storm costs. It
- 5 doesn't prohibit it and it doesn't allow for it and I
- 6 don't think it would be considered as part of the
- 7 SEET test for the company going forward.
- 8 Q. So is it your understanding that DP&L
- 9 will have a -- SEET will apply to Dayton Power and
- 10 Light in 2014, correct?
- 11 A. Yes, the SEET will apply to DP&L in 2014.
- 12 Q. So any costs that the company gets to
- 13 collect through a storm recovery mechanism, are those
- 14 amounts subject to the SEET test?
- MR. SHARKEY: Objection. Calls for a
- 16 legal conclusion.
- 17 You can answer if you know.
- 18 A. I don't know. That's for that proceeding
- 19 to determine whether or not it applies or not.
- 20 MS. YOST: I think this is a good place
- 21 to stop. Otherwise we go into another area.
- 22 (Thereupon, the deposition was adjourned
- 23 at 6:15 p.m.)
- 24 - -

1	State of Ohio :
2	: SS: County of :
3	I, Dona R. Seger-Lawson, do hereby certify that I have read the foregoing transcript of my
4	deposition given on Thursday, January 30, 2014; that together with the correction page attached hereto
5	noting changes in form or substance, if any, it is true and correct.
6	
7	Dona R. Seger-Lawson
9 10	I do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of the deposition of Dona R. Seger-Lawson was submitted to the witness for reading and signing;
11	that after she had stated to the undersigned Notary Public that she had read and examined her deposition,
12	she signed the same in my presence on the day of, 2014.
13	
14	Notary Public
15	
16	My commission expires,
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127 1 CERTIFICATE

_	
2	State of Ohio : SS:
3	County of Franklin :
4	I, Karen Sue Gibson, Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, certify that the within named Dona R. Seger-Lawson was by me duly sworn to testify to the whole truth i
5	
6	the cause aforesaid; that the testimony was taken down by me in stenotypy in the presence of said
7	witness, afterwards transcribed upon a computer; that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the
8	testimony given by said witness taken at the time and place in the foregoing caption specified and
9	completed without adjournment.
10	I certify that I am not a relative, employee, or attorney of any of the parties hereto, or of any
11	attorney or counsel employed by the parties, or financially interested in the action.
12	imanetarly interested in the detroit.
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, on this 4th day of February, 2014.
14	on ones for day of restaury, form.
15	Varon Sua Cibaan Bagigtarad
16	Karen Sue Gibson, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio.
17	in and for the state of onto.
18	My commission expires August 14, 2015.
19	(KSG-5814)
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in

Case No(s). 12-3062-EL-RDR, 12-3266-EL-AAM

Summary: Deposition Deposition Transcript of Dona R. Seger-Lawson Volume I by the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel electronically filed by Patti Mallarnee on behalf of Yost, Melissa Ms.