

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Duke)
Energy Ohio, Inc. to Adjust Rider DR-IM) Case No. 15-883-GE-RDR
and Rider AU for 2012 SmartGrid Costs.)

ENTRY

The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) On December 17, 2008, the Commission approved a stipulation that, among other things, provides a process for recovering costs associated with the deployment of an electric SmartGrid system through Rider Distribution Reliability - Infrastructure Modernization (Rider DR-IM). *In re Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 08-920-EL-SSO, et al. (*ESP Case*), Opinion and Order (Dec. 17, 2008). In addition, the stipulation provides that, in the second quarter of each year, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) shall file for approval of Rider DR-IM adjustments, subject to due process, including an opportunity for a hearing. Additionally, on May 28, 2008, the Commission approved a stipulation that, among other things, provided a process for filing deployment plans for the installation of an automated gas meter reading system, which would share the SmartGrid communications technology, and a method for recovering costs associated with the plans, which was designated the Rider Advanced Utility (Rider AU). *In re Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 07-589-GA-AIR, et al., (*Gas Distribution Rate Case*), Opinion and Order (May 28, 2008).
- (2) On June 4, 2015, Duke filed an application to adjust Riders DR-IM and AU for SmartGrid deployment, pursuant to the processes approved in the *Gas Distribution Rate Case* and the *ESP Case*.
- (3) By Entry issued on July 1, 2015, the attorney examiner established the following procedural schedule for the review of this application:
 - (a) September 4, 2015 – Deadline for the filing of motions to intervene.

- (b) October 9, 2015 – Deadline for the filing of comments on the application by Staff and intervenors.
 - (c) October 23, 2015 – Deadline for all parties to file reply comments.
 - (d) November 6, 2015 – In the event all of the issues raised in the comments are not resolved, or if the Commission deems the application may be unjust or unreasonable, a hearing will be held, and Staff and intervenor testimony will be due on this date.
 - (e) November 13, 2015 – Deadline for Duke to file supplemental testimony.
 - (f) November 19, 2015 – In the event a hearing is deemed necessary, the hearing will commence at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, 11th floor, hearing room 11-C, Columbus, Ohio 43215.
- (4) On October 6, 2015, Staff filed a motion for an extension of the procedural schedule and a request for expedited treatment. Staff explains that it needs more time to complete its investigation and prepare comments. Staff further explains that it has consulted with all parties to this proceeding and they do not object to Staff's request for an extension or its request for expedited treatment of the motion.
- (5) Upon consideration of Staff's request, the attorney examiner finds that it is reasonable and should be granted. Accordingly, the parties should observe the following procedural schedule:
- (a) November 13, 2015 – Deadline for the filing of comments on the application by Staff and intervenors.
 - (b) November 25, 2015 – Deadline for all parties to file reply comments.
 - (c) December 9, 2015 – In the event all of the issues raised in the comments are not resolved, or if the Commission deems the application may be unjust

or unreasonable, a hearing will be held, and Staff and intervenor testimony will be due on this date.

- (d) December 16, 2015 - Deadline for Duke to file supplemental testimony.
 - (e) December 22, 2015 - In the event a hearing is deemed necessary, the hearing will commence at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, 11th floor, hearing room 11-C, Columbus, Ohio 43215.
- (6) In the event Duke comes to an agreement with some or all of the parties in this case on some or all of the facts or issues in this case, the attorney examiner finds it appropriate to set forth a schedule for the filing of such stipulations prior to the commencement of the hearing in this case. Accordingly, Duke must file any applicable stipulation, by 9:00 a.m., on December 21, 2015.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Staff's motion for an extension of the procedural schedule be granted. It is, further,

ORDERED, That the procedural schedule set forth in finding (5) be adopted. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon each party of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Kerry Sheets

By: Kerry K. Sheets
Attorney Examiner

jrj/vrm

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in

Case No(s). 15-0883-GE-RDR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting the motion for an extension of the procedural schedule; electronically filed by Vesta R Miller on behalf of Kerry K. Sheets, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio