## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

- - -

In the Matter of the :
Application of Ohio Edison :
Company, The Cleveland :
Electric Illuminating :
Company, and The Toledo :

Company, and The Toledo : Edison Company for : Case No. 16-0743-EL-POR Approval of Their Energy :

Approval of Their Energy : Efficiency and Peak Demand : Reduction Program Portfolio: Plans for 2017 through 2019:

- - -

#### PROCEEDINGS

before Mr. Richard Bulgrin, Attorney Examiner, at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Room 11-D, Columbus, Ohio, called at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 25, 2017.

- - -

## VOLUME III

- - -

ARMSTRONG & OKEY, INC.

222 East Town Street, Second Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-5201
(614) 224-9481 - (800) 223-9481
Fax - (614) 224-5724

- - -

	376	ŝ
1	APPEARANCES:	
2 3 4	FirstEnergy Service Company By Ms. Erika Ostrowski Ms. Carrie M. Dunn 76 South Main Street Akron, Ohio 44308	
5		
6	Kolich & Associates, LLC By Ms. Kathy J. Kolich 1521 Hightower Drive Uniontown, Ohio 44685	
7	Jones Day	
8	By Mr. Michael R. Gladman 325 John H. McConnell Boulevard, Suite 600 Columbus, Ohio 43215	
10	On behalf of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company,	
11	and The Toledo Edison Company.	
12 13	Bruce J. Weston, Consumers' Counsel By Mr. Christopher Healey Assistant Consumers' Counsel	
14	10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485	
15	Bricker & Eckler, LLP By Mr. Dane Stinson	
16	100 South Third Street Columbus, Ohio 43215	
17	On behalf of the Residential Customers	
18	of Ohio Edison Company, Toledo Edison Company, and The Cleveland Electric	
19	Illuminating Company.	
20	Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy By Ms. Colleen L. Mooney	
21	231 West Lima Street P.O. Box 1793 Findlay, Ohio 45839	
23	On behalf of the Ohio Partners for	
	Affordable Energy.	
24		
25		

		377
1	APPEARANCES (Continued):	
2	Mike DeWine, Ohio Attorney General By Mr. William L. Wright,	
3	Section Chief By Mr. John H. Jones	
4	Ms. Natalia Messenger Assistant Attorneys General	
5	Public Utilities Section 30 East Broad Street, 16th floor	
6	Columbus, Ohio 43215	
7	On behalf of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.	
8		
9	Environmental Law & Policy Center By Ms. Madeline Fleisher 21 West Broad Street, Suite 500	
10	Columbus, Ohio 43215	
11	Environmental Law & Policy Center	
12	By Mr. Robert Kelter 35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1600 Chicago, Illinois 60601	
13	Chicago, fillinois 60001	
14	On behalf of the Environmental Law & Policy Center.	
15	IGS Energy	
16	By Mr. Joseph Oliker 6100 Emerald Parkway	
17	Dublin, Ohio 43016	
	On behalf of IGS Energy.	
18	Carpenter Lipps & Leland LLP	
19	By Ms. Angela M. Paul Whitfield 280 North High Street, Suite 1300	
20	Columbus, Ohio 43215	
21	On behalf of The Kroger Co.	
22	Ohio Environmental Council By Ms. Miranda Leppla	
23	1145 Chesapeake Avenue, Suite I Columbus, Ohio 43212	
24		
25	On behalf of the Ohio Environmental Council and Environmental Defense Fund	

	35	78	
1	APPEARANCES (Continued):		
2	Carpenter Lipps & Leland LLP By Ms. Kimberly W. Bojko		
3	and Mr. James D. Perko, Jr. 280 North High Street, Suite 1300 Columbus, Ohio 43215		
5	On behalf of The Ohio Manufacturers'		
6	Association Energy Group.  McNees, Wallace & Nurick LLC		
7	By Mr. Matthew Pritchard 21 East State Street, 17th Floor		
8	Columbus, Ohio 43215		
9	On behalf of the Industrial Energy Users of Ohio.		
10	Law Office of Robert Dove		
11 12	Mr. Robert Dove P.O. Box 13442		
13	Natural Resources Defense Council		
14	Samantha Williams Staff Attorney 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 1600		
15	Chicago, Illinois 60606		
16	On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council.		
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

				379	
1		INDEX		379	
2		INDEA			
3	יא ד תיאז	FCCFC		DACE	
4	WITNESSES PAGE Patrick Donlon				
5	Cross-Examination (Continued) by Mr. Gladman Cross-Examination by Mr. Kelter Redirect Examination by Mr. Jones Recross-Examination by Mr. Kelter Recross-Examination by Mr. Gladman				
6					
7	Recross-Examination by Mr. Gladman 473				
8					
9	COMP.	ANIES EXHIBITS	IDENTIFIED AI	OMITTED	
10	11	Opinion and Order, Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO	384		
11	12	Finding and Order,	390		
12		Case No. 11-126-EL-EEC Case No. 11-127-EL-EEC Case No. 11-128-EL-EEC			
13	1 0		400	47.C	
14	13	"Summary of Switch Rates from EDUs to CRES Providers in Terms of Sales for the	408	476	
15		Month Ending March 31, 2015"			
16	14	"A Report by the Staff of the Public Utilities	418	476	
17		Commission of Ohio, Ohio Utility Rate Survey,			
18		December 1, 2015" www.puco.ohio.gov/puco/			
19		<pre>index.cfm/industry- information/statistical-</pre>			
20		reports/ohio-utility-rate- survey/2015			
21		SULVEY/ ZULJ			
22					
23					
24					
25					

					380
1		INDEX	(Continued	d)	
2					
3	COMPA	ANIES EXHIBITS		IDENTIFIED	ADMITTED
4	15	ORC 111.15, "Adopti	on and	434	
5		filing of agency administrative code			
6		<pre>www.puco.ohio.gov/p index.cfm/industry-</pre>			
7		<pre>information/statist reports/electric-cu</pre>	cical-		
8		choice-switch-rates	-and-		
		aggregation-activit electric-switch-rat			
9		sales/sales-2015			
10					
11	STAFI	F EXHIBIT		IDENTIFIED	ADMITTED
12	1	Amended Testimony of Patrick Donlon	f	II-311	475
13					
14					
15	ELPC	EXHIBIT		IDENTIFIED	ADMITTED
16	1	Letter from PUCO to Mandate Study Commidated 2-26-2015		450	476
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					

381 1 Wednesday Morning Session, 2 January 25, 2017. 3 4 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Good morning. This is 5 day three. And preliminary matters, I think I just 6 want to note that the parties have agreed that we'll have the -- is it Mr. --7 8 MR. KELTER: Neme. 9 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Neme. How do you 10 spell that? 11 MR. KELTER: N-e-m-e. 12 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay. File his 13 testimony. 14 MR. KELTER: Friday. Or today, today, 15 sorry, sorry, sorry. 16 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Good. I was thinking 17 that went too smooth. Okay. So filed by end of 18 business today. 19 MR. KELTER: Yes. 20 MS. WILLIAMS: By the filing deadline. 21 EXAMINER BULGRIN: At the time --22 MR. KELTER: Best efforts earlier. 23 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Thank you. That would 24 be appreciated. And then he will appear Friday 25 morning at 9? 10?

```
1
                 MR. KELTER: It's really up to everybody.
 2
     I mean I don't know how much cross people will have
 3
     for him. You haven't seen it yet.
                 MR. HEALEY: I can't -- I couldn't even
 4
 5
     possibly guess at this point.
 6
                 MR. KELTER: Probably 10 minutes.
 7
                 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Let's set it at 10 and
 8
     let me know after you've seen it whether --
 9
                 MR. HEALEY: I would be shocked if it
     would be more than two hours. That would be on the
10
11
     high end.
12
                 MR. KELTER: It's like 30 pages of
13
     testimony.
14
                 MS. WILLIAMS: It is not --
15
                 EXAMINER BULGRIN: And then he will
16
     testify on Friday and we'll start at 10 o'clock. I
17
     think we have the room booked for that. And then the
18
     company plans to file two rebuttal testimony?
19
                 MS. OSTROWSKI: At this point it would be
20
     one or two, your Honor. And we would like to file by
2.1
     end of day Friday. And come back here on Tuesday.
2.2
                 EXAMINER BULGRIN: But you will make best
23
     efforts to get it filed as soon as you can on Friday
24
     considering we are going to be in hearing so.
25
                 MS. OSTROWSKI: That's right, your Honor.
```

1 Thank you.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

18

19

20

2.2

MR. HEALEY: Can we just clarify that's close of business, not midnight on Friday, because she said end of day.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Close of business.

MS. OSTROWSKI: Yes.

MR. HEALEY: Thank you.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: And then Tuesday I'm guessing is 10 o'clock?

MS. OSTROWSKI: 10 o'clock sounds great.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: So, Karen, you're going to have to come back twice. Okay. Anything further? Then I think we are going to continue with cross-examination and from the company.

MR. GLADMAN: Yes, thank you, your Honor.

16

## 17 PATRICK DONLON

being previously duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was examined and testified further as follows:

CROSS-EXAMINATION (Continued)

21 By Mr. Gladman:

- Q. Good morning, Mr. Donlon.
- A. Good morning.
- Q. I am going to start with a few cleanup items from yesterday's testimony. Do you recall I

asked you in the context of discussing rider DSE2 about a rate freeze in the companies' ESP IV order?

A. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

16

17

18

19

- Q. And you agreed there was a -- if I got your testimony right, a base distribution rate freeze but it did not include rider DSE2. Do you recall that discussion?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. I believe there was some confusion due to my choice of words and I want to try this again. Let's take a look at the actual language to try to clear that up.
- MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, may we approach the witness?
- 15 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.
  - MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, while my colleague is bringing the copies up for the record, we are going to be marking as Companies' Exhibit 11, the March 31, 2016, Opinion and Order in the companies' ESP IV case.
- 21 EXAMINER BULGRIN: All righty.
- 22 (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
- Q. Mr. Donlon, do you have what we have marked as Companies' Exhibit 11 in front of you?
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. Can I ask you to turn to page 86 of that document. Are you there, sir?
  - A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. And if you look at this top paragraph the fourth line down, it starts with "Therefore, in order to protect customers against rate volatility and price fluctuations and to provide additional rate stability for customers, the Commission will modify the Stipulations to include a mechanism to limit average customer bills. This will ensure that the average customer bill will see no total bill increase for two years." Did I read that provision correctly?
- A. You did, but you left out some important information later in that paragraph.
  - Q. You mean the next paragraph?
  - A. No. In that paragraph.
- Q. Okay. Which portion of the language do you think is significant?
  - A. "FirstEnergy is authorized to defer expenses for future recovery in an amount equivalent to the revenue reduction resulting from the implementation of the mechanism for the period of June 1, 2017, through May 31, 2018."
- Q. Okay. So that's a different paragraph actually. I read from the top paragraph and that's

what I was asking you --

2.1

- A. I thought you started at "Therefore, the Commission directs the Companies to ensure..."
- Q. No. Actually, the first paragraph at the top. The language -- let's start again, make sure we are on the same page here. So top paragraph on page 86, fourth line. Do you see the "Therefore" there?
  - A. Ah.
- Q. Let me try it again and we will get to the language you pointed to as well. It says, "Therefore, in order to protect customers against rate volatility and price fluctuations and to provide additional rate stability for customers, the Commission will modify the Stipulations to include a mechanism to limit average customer bills. This will ensure that the average customer bill will see no total bill increase for two years." Did I read that portion of the Order correctly?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And then you also pointed to the next paragraph which continues on with respect to how this will be implemented, including the deferral language that you referred to as well. Is that the next paragraph in the Order?

A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. Is it fair to say that the companies agreed and the Commission ordered that for the period June 1, 2016, through May 31, 2018, average customer bills will not increase as compared to average customer bills for the period June 1, 2015, through May 31, 2016?
- A. I am not sure the company agreed. I don't know what you mean by that other than that it was ordered. I am not sure if this was in the Stipulation or Order, so.
- Q. Okay. Fair enough. And it says in the Order, the Commission implemented this provision to protect against rate volatility and price fluctuations and to provide rate stability, correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And this two-year -- if I use "bill mitigation mechanism," is that a fair terminology to use for this provision?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. The two-year bill mitigation
  mechanism applies to total bills of the companies'
  customers?
- A. Yes. In allowing for deferral.
- Q. Sure. And the total bills include rider

DSE2?

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

19

20

2.1

2.2

2 A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. And you pointed to the deferral language a couple of times. Is it fair to say that deferral only applies to lost revenue for the period June 1, '17, through May 31, 2018?
- A. The same time as the mitigation time period, yes.
  - Q. Okay. And is it also fair to say that the future recovery will occur as suggested in the language sometime in the future, it's a deferral; is that correct?
- THE WITNESS: Can you restate that?

  "Future" was used a fair amount of time in that

  sentence.

16 (Record read.)

- A. What future recovery are you referring to?
  - Q. Well, you pointed to the language about deferring expenses for future recovery, correct?

    That's the language you were referring to?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And I am asking do you understand that that recovery will occur sometime in the future?

  First; that's my first question.

A. Well, that statement assumes that there would be a deferral which that doesn't necessarily -- this may and probably will not actually -- let me start that over.

If this piece and rate mitigation comes in and the company cannot reflect it, then, yes, if that happens, the deferred expenses would have to be deferred -- or collected at a later date.

Q. Okay.

2.1

- A. But you have to first get to that trigger, and I'm not agreeing that I expect the company to actually hit that trigger.
- Q. Okay. Appreciate that. Let's turn to the questions we had yesterday about the benchmark amendment. Do you recall yesterday that we discussed the provision in staff's cost cap proposal that would permit the EDUs to seek a benchmark amendment if they are unable to meet statutory benchmarks after making "all possible adjustments"?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And that's something that's in your testimony at page 6, lines 124 through 127?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And that provision cross-references, does it not, Revised Code 4928.66(A)(2)(b) as the

mechanism for seeking a benchmark reduction?

A. Yes. And actually, yesterday, I said that that provision hadn't been used, and I was incorrect. It actually had been requested by the -- by FirstEnergy to -- in 2000 -- for the 2000 benchmarks. The company was granted a waiver for 2009 to move them and apply the benchmark in -- or take the cumulative balance for 2009 and 2010 in 2010, so I was misstated yesterday. I wasn't aware of that Order.

Q. Okay. Let's take a look at that Finding and Order.

MR. GLADMAN: Mr. Eckert, can you give us the Finding and Order in Case No. 11-126?

And for the record, your Honor, we are going to be taking a look at -- give you a date, May 19, 2011, Finding and Order in Case No. 11-126-EL-EEC and this will be Companies' Exhibit 12.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: All right. It will be so marked.

# (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

- Q. Mr. Donlon, do you have what has been marked as Company Exhibit 12 in front of you?
- A. Yes.

2.1

Q. And is this the Finding and Order you

were referring to when you said that Ohio Edison had, in fact, made that request under 4928 -- let's begin again -- 4928.66(A)(2)(b)?

A. It appears to be.

2.1

- Q. Okay. Take a look at page 5, paragraph 11, of that Finding and Order, and I'll -- I am not going to read the entire paragraph, but if you would like to, feel free to do so. My question is, do you know if this amendment to the statutory benchmark relates to the companies' portfolio plan for the '09 case? I believe that's what you just testified to.
- A. If you go to the first page, it appears that in paragraph (3), it is referencing Case No. 09-1947-EL-POR.
- Q. Thank you. That was going to be my next question, so I appreciate you beating me to that. On paragraph 11 on page 5, does it state that one of the reasons for granting the statutory benchmark amendment is the fact that Ohio Edison's comprehensive program portfolio was not approved by the Commission until March 23, 2011?
- MR. JONES: Objection, your Honor. The Order speaks for itself.
- MR. GLADMAN: I'm asking him this

question to put it into context for the next question.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Overruled. You can answer.

A. It appears so.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

Q. And so fair to conclude that one of the reasons for the justification for the reduction of the benchmark was a delay in obtaining the energy efficiency decision from the Commission?

THE WITNESS: Can you repeat that, please?

MR. GLADMAN: Can you read that back?

(Record read.)

MR. JONES: Could Counsel provide a reference to the Order where it says that?

MR. GLADMAN: The language, what I just read to him and that he agreed was in the Order.

- A. I believe the Order speaks for itself and what the Order says is what the Order says. And staff -- I am not here to put words in the Commission's mouth of what they said, but I think you read that and it says...
- Q. Well, the next sentence suggests that,

  "For this reason, the Commission finds that OE..."

  which is Ohio Edison, correct?

- A. I assume so. I haven't looked to see their parenthetical. Yes, it is.
- Q. It says, "For this reason, the Commission finds that OE could not reasonably achieve its EE/PDR benchmark due to regulatory reasons beyond its control." Did I read that language correctly?
  - A. You did.

2.1

- Q. Also yesterday, Mr. Donlon, do you recall testifying that one of the FirstEnergy -- energy companies had exceeded its portfolio plan budget in 2012?
- A. I don't think I said one of the companies. I think it was actually what I was referring to was in the aggregate but I am trying to recall exactly what the statistics were I was looking at. I think it was the company as a whole; not a company individually.
  - Q. Okay.
  - A. But I could be wrong on that.
- Q. Sure. Let's just, to make sure we are all on the same page here, let's take a look from your testimony from yesterday.
- MR. GLADMAN: May we approach with the transcript?
- 25 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.

Can we go off the record for a second?

(Discussion off the record.)

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor.

Q. Mr. Donlon, we've handed you the transcript from yesterday's questioning and answering during your testimony, just so we can make sure exactly what you said on this topic. If you could take a look at page 365 and starting on line 21.

"Question: And so, in other words, once the Commission approves the plans and corresponding budgets, the companies have to stay within those budgets, correct?"

And your answer was: "I know the company went over the budget in 2012, I believe, so I think -- but, however, I am not sure what happened to allow that to happen. So I think there is ways they can get -- they can spend more."

Did I read that Question and Answer correctly from yesterday?

A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. Okay. And --
- A. Or at least as it appears here.
- Q. Sure. Well, we are going to have faith in our court reporter today, so.
- 25 And so, following up on your statement

is, was that a single company or the companies in the aggregate that you are referring to there in terms of failing to meet budget in 2012?

- A. Usually when I am using the "company," I am referring to FirstEnergy and its three affiliates. I tend to look at them together, unless I'm specifically talking about them separately, but, again, like I just clarified, I'm not -- I am pretty sure the information I'm recalling was the aggregate of the three companies.
- Q. Okay. So you believe that it was in the aggregate the three companies went over their portfolio planned budget in 2012?
  - A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. Okay. Are there annual budgets for portfolio plans or a single budget for an entire three-year plan?
- A. My understanding is the company files individual budgets for each year.
  - Q. Okay. For the portfolio?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And you recall that you testified on a couple of occasions yesterday that one metric in support of your cost cap is that the companies were 21 percent under budget in 2012 to '14?

- A. And 50 percent overcompliance, yes.
- Q. Sure. If so, how could the companies also be over budget during that same time period if your testimony was they were under budget? Can you help me understand that?
- A. If you average three years and one year is over and the other two are significantly under, you can still equal below.
- Q. Okay. So that's what I am trying to get at. You think that the companies on the aggregate, on a portfolio plan budget basis, were over budget in 2012, but for the entire period 2012 to '14, on the aggregate, the companies were 21 percent under budget?
  - A. And 50 percent overcompliance, correct. And these are rough averages.
- Q. Okay. Let's talk a little bit more about that testimony on overcompliance and under budget.

  Again, just to be clear, when you are talking about overcompliance and under budget, that's in the aggregate for all three companies?
  - A. Correct.
- Q. And, again, that -- those metrics apply to the entire plan period of 2012 through '14?
  - A. Correct.

2.1

2.2

- Q. And if I wanted to recreate your calculation, where would I find that information to do so?
  - A. The companies' own filings.
  - Q. Okay. Which filings?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

- A. Your portfolio -- I cannot recall exactly what it is called.
  - Q. Annual status reports?
- A. I would guess, yes, it is the annual status reports.
- Q. And you gave that testimony about the under budget/overcompliance yesterday when I asked how you concluded the companies can "run their energy efficiency portfolio and meet or exceed their statutory benchmark." Do you recall that?
  - A. As one of the considerations, yes.
- Q. By the way, if the companies, on the aggregate, were 21 percent under budget in 2012 through '14, would that not suggest the companies were appropriately managing their EE/PDR budget during that time frame?
- A. It could suggest that or it could also suggest that they overbudgeted.
- Q. Okay. Let's switch gears here for a minute. On page 4 of your testimony, at lines 87

through 89, you speak of making reference to obtaining "consistency amongst all the utilities in the state"; is that correct?

A. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

- Q. Fair to say that for staff, consistency among Ohio utilities is an important consideration?
  - A. In general or in this context?
  - Q. In general.
- A. We would like consistency. It doesn't always work out and as -- as -- it makes our life much harder when everything is different. In fact, most -- a lot of things are different among the four utilities.
- Q. Okay. And you like consistency, where possible, because it promotes fairness?
- A. "Fairness" is an interesting word. I'm not sure "fairness" is -- relatively.
- Q. Okay. Now, as we discussed yesterday, your proposal, staff's proposal, includes setting the overall cost cap for the companies EE/PDR plans at 3 percent of FERC Form 1, page 300, line 10; is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And is it also accurate to state that staff has agreed to a higher percentage overall cost

cap for other utilities in Ohio?

2.1

MR. JONES: Objection, relevance, your Honor, to this proceeding.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Overruled.

- A. Through stipulation, with those other companies where staff made considerable concessions, yes, staff agreed to a different percentage.
- Q. Okay. And, for instance, the staff agreed to an overall cost cap using the same formula of 4 percent for AEP Ohio, the Ohio Power Company, correct?

MR. JONES: Objection, your Honor. That was a result of a settlement in another case.

MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, may I be heard on that? This witness's testimony is that they propose this cost cap, in part, to ensure consistency among all the utilities in the state. We are entitled to explore the consequences of that proposal to demonstrate that it leads to, in our opinion, inconsistent results and inequities. And to the extent that we are referencing, very briefly here, just to get a metric on the record, AEP and/or DP&L stipulated settlements, we believe it would be helpful to the Commission to compare what just happened in those cases and the Commission can

1 | certainly give it the weight it deserves.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: I will allow a little leeway on this.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: You can answer.

- A. I don't remember the question. Can you please repeat or reread the question.
  - Q. Let me ask it again just to save you.

Fair to say that staff agreed to an overall cost cap, using the same metrics as proposed in this case, of 4 percent for AEP, that is the Ohio Power Company?

MR. JONES: Your Honor, I just want to note a continuing objection to this line of questioning.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay. Duly noted.

- A. Through stipulation and with concessions -- other concessions that were made by the company and other parties, staff did agree to a 4 percent.
- Q. Okay. And staff also agreed to the same
  4 percent cost cap for DP&L?
- A. Again, through stipulation and concessions made by all parties, staff agreed to a 4 percent.

- Q. Okay. FERC Form 1, page 300, line 10, it requests each company's "Total Sales to Ultimate Consumers," is that right? And if you would like to refer to --
  - A. Yes.
- Q. -- a sample FERC Form 10. It's obviously attached to your testimony.
  - A. Yes. Yes, it does.
- Q. And you would agree that line 10 includes revenues from the sales of electricity to consumers?
- 11 A. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

14

15

16

18

19

20

2.1

22

- Q. And one component that impacts revenues from the sales of electricity is utility rates?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. Some utilities have higher rates than others, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
  - Q. And if a utility has a higher rate than another utility, its revenues would be higher, all other things being equal?
  - A. All other things are not equal in -- within the state but, yes, if they were, yes, that's a correct statement.
- Q. Thank you. And therefore, again,
  assuming all else equal, the higher the rate, the

higher the revenues, correct?

- A. If all else was equal, yes.
- Q. And then all else equal, the higher the revenues, the higher the FERC line 10?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. And the higher the FERC line 10, the higher the cost cap under staff's proposal, correct?
    - A. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

- Q. So the use of line 10 in staff's proposed cost cap would be more beneficial to the utilities with higher rates, again, assuming all else equal?
- A. If all else is equal, which it's not, yes.
- MR. GLADMAN: Move to strike.
- 15 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Overruled.
- Q. I'll move on.
- Mr. Donlon, I take it you are familiar with Energy Choice Ohio?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And under that provision, energy
  customers in Ohio are able to shop for energy
  generation from a group of competitive suppliers
  certified by the Commission; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. In other words, if multiple suppliers

offer generation services in a particular customer's area, that customer has the opportunity to choose the company that supplies the generation of his or her's electricity; is that right?

A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. Okay. Also fair to say that the customer cannot shop for supplies, transmission, and distribution; just the supplier of the generation; is that right?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Turning your attention back again to the FERC Form 1, page 300, line 10. I think you just testified that line 10 reflects sales to ultimate consumers; is that right?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. And is it fair to say that line 10 includes all revenue where the utility has a corresponding expense?
- A. I would assume so, but I'm not -- I don't know every company's accounting verbatim, so I wouldn't say that's absolutely a yes.
- Q. Okay. So fair to say you don't know
  every company's accounting with respect to what goes
  into their FERC 150 -- sorry, FERC Form 1, line 10
  figure?

- A. No, that's actually not what I said. I said I don't know everyone's expenses so -- and that there is necessarily an offset of expense to every single revenue line.
- Q. Okay. And I think we are talking past each other a little bit here. I want to make sure you're suggesting you think it's correct that the revenue in line 10 is the revenue where the utility has a corresponding expense, but you are not certain because you don't know every utility's accounting practice; is that a fair statement?

MR. JONES: Objection, your Honor.

13 | Objection. Asked and answered.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

MR. GLADMAN: I don't understand the answer yet.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Yeah. I will overrule that.

THE WITNESS: Could I have that reread?

(Record read.)

EXAMINER BULGRIN: You can answer.

A. Again, from my accounting background and working with it, that sounds correct, but I am not going to say definitively as I am not intimately familiar with how everyone does their FERC Form 1s. Even though I have in the past, in other careers,

worked and updated FERC Form 1 information for other companies.

- Q. Sure. That was part of your responsibility when you were at AEP before you joined the staff; is that fair to say?
  - A. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

- Q. If a particular utility customer shopped for an electric supplier other than the utility, those revenues are not reflected in the utility's line 10; is that correct?
- 11 A. That is my understanding.
  - Q. While the utility bills the customer for that shopped generation, it merely passes through that revenue to the generation supplier, correct?
    - A. Yes.
    - Q. And, in fact, those revenues would therefore belong to the entity that was actually supplying the generation, correct?
      - A. Yes.
  - Q. And the utility, itself, then does not report that shopped generation revenue on FERC Form 1, line 10, correct?
- A. If they are reporting it correctly, I would assume no.
- Q. Let me make sure I got that answer

correct. The utility does not report shopped generation revenue on its FERC Form 1, line 10; would you agree with that statement?

- A. That is correct.
- Q. Thank you.

2.1

- A. As long as they are doing it correctly.
- Q. Understood, understood. Is it fair to say that the number of customers that shop for a supplier of generation varies from utility to utility in Ohio?
- A. And from month to month, year to year, correct.
  - Q. In other words, Ohio utilities have different switch rates meaning the percentages of shopping customers?
  - A. Correct.
  - Q. And as an example, I know this is simple, but bear me with for a minute to make sure I have got it. If 80 percent of Utility A's customers shop for a different supplier of generation, meaning an 80 percent switch rate; line 10 would only include generation revenues for 20 percent of Utility A's customers, correct?
    - A. I believe that to be correct.
- Q. And on the other hand, if only 20 percent

of Utility B's customers shop for a different supplier of generation, meaning again a 20 percent switch rate, line 10 would include generation revenues for 80 percent of Utility B's customers, correct?

A. I believe that's correct.

2.1

- Q. And in my hypothetical, a couple more questions on that, Utility B's revenues from generation would be higher than Utility A's; all else being equal, correct?
  - A. If all else is equal, then yes.
- Q. And as a result, Utility B's line 10
  figure on FERC Form 1 would be higher; again assuming
  all else being equal, correct?
  - A. That sounds correct.
  - Q. And that would also mean that staff's cost cap for Utility B would be higher than for Utility A; once again assuming all else equal, correct?
- 20 A. That would be correct.
  - Q. Okay. And also fair to say that both

    Utility A and Utility B would still have to provide

    energy efficiency programs for the shopping customers
    in their footprints?
- 25 A. That is correct.

Q. In other words, a customer shopping for generation has no impact on the utility's obligation to provide energy efficiency programs; is that fair to say?

A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Donlon, are you familiar with the switch rates for the FirstEnergy companies?

A. I am not.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

23

24

25

Q. Okay. Let's --

A. Or at least not off the top of my head.

Q. Let me show you a document here and see if we can get you here.

MR. GLADMAN: Mr. Eckert, can we have the PUCO shopping customers exhibit.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: It will be Company

16 Exhibit 13.

MR. GLADMAN: 13, thank you.

(EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

MR. GLADMAN: And while we are pulling that together, for the record the title of that document is "Summary of Switch Rates from EDUs to CRES Providers in Terms of Sales For The Month Ending March 31, 2015," and then it also includes the same information for June 30, 2015, month ended;

September 30, 2015, month ended; and December 31,

2015, month ended. Your Honor, I would ask that we take administrative notice of this document. This is a Commission document.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Well, then certainly.

MR. GLADMAN: And may we also approach

and we have got a demonstrative that tracks essentially the information on this exhibit. It might make it easier for the witness to refer to and you can also look at it at the same time. Is that okay?

11 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Do we want to take a

14 minute?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

13

15

16

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

MR. GLADMAN: I think we're okay. Thank you. And if it's okay, your Honor, to have

17 Mr. Tostado stand up there and highlight some numbers 18 as we refer to them for ease of reference?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you.

Q. (By Mr. Gladman) Mr. Donlon, I have handed you what has been marked as Company Exhibit No. 13. Do you have that in front of you?

A. I do.

Q. Is this a document that's prepared by

your group?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

12

15

16

17

18

19

- A. We prepare this document and post it on the website. If this is the exact same document, I'll have to take your word for it.
- Q. Yeah, I'll represent to you this is a document we pulled from the Commission's site. So this is a document in this form that you have seen before?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And it shows Electric Choice sales switch rates for 2015; is that fair to say?
  - A. First page is month ending March of '15.
- Q. And I appreciate it. Yeah, that was a general question, so let me be more specific.

It looks like we've got four different two-page reports in this exhibit; month ended March 3; 2015; month ended June 30, 2015; month ended September 30, 2015; and month ended December 31, 2015. Is that right?

- A. Yes. You have one for each quarter of 21 2015.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. And I am going to ask
  you to take a look at the switch rates for December
  24 2015, which are the last two pages of the hard copy,
  and reflected on the demonstrative that's in front of

you. Do see that?

1

2.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

- A. Yes.
- Q. And accurate to say that December 2015 is the last month that is considered in staff's cost cap, since 2015 revenues will dictate the cap for 2015 through '19 under your proposal?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. If you take a look at the columns up there, and in particular starting with The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, the Electric Choice sales switch rate for CEI is 84.07 percent; is that correct?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And again, some of this is going to be fundamental, so bear with me. I want to make sure our record is clear. In other words, 84.07 percent of the megawatt-hours sold to Cleveland Electric's customers were provided by Electric Choice suppliers according to this exhibit; is that right?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And also, according to this exhibit, the same figure for Duke Energy is 74.47 percent; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's roughly a 10-percent

difference when comparing it to Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company; is that fair to say?

- A. It's a little under 10 percent.
- Q. Okay. In other words, when comparing switch rates or percentages of shopping customers, just under 10 percent less of Duke Energy's total megawatt-hours sold are provided by Electric Choice suppliers as opposed to Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company; is that fair?

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Can you reread that?

12 (Record read.)

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

- A. For generation.
- Q. Okay. And that's what we are talking about when we are talking about switch rates, correct?
- A. Right. But you said "total sales" so.
  - Q. Okay. I appreciate that clarification.

    If we look at the Electric Choice sales switch rate

    for DP&L in this exhibit, that figure is

    71.56 percent; is that correct?
    - A. Yes.
- Q. And again, compared to Cleveland
  Electric, which we'll stay with for a moment here,
  that's roughly a 12-and-a-half percent difference?

A. Roughly.

2.1

- Q. Okay. If we look at the Electric Choice sales switch rate for AEP Ohio in this exhibit, their figure is 70.18 percent, correct?
  - A. Correct.
- Q. And, again, compared to Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, that's almost a 14 percent difference, is that accurate?
  - A. Almost.
- Q. Sir, let's look briefly at the data for the other two FirstEnergy companies which is also on the demonstrative, but on the next page of your hard exhibit if you are looking at that. The Electric Choice sales switch rate for the Ohio Edison Company, according to this exhibit, is 78.98 percent; is that correct?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And fair to say that that 78.98 percent switch rate is higher than for AEP, Duke, and DP&L?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Finally, let's take a look at the Toledo Edison Company. If we look at their Electric Choice sales switch rate, which, according to this exhibit, is 76.81 percent, that figure would also be higher than the figures for Duke, DP&L, and AEP, correct?

A. Yes, it is.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

- Q. Okay. So fair to say, summing that up, that Duke, DP&L, and AEP all have lower shopping rates than each of the FirstEnergy companies?
  - A. Yes. At least through December 31, 2015.
- Q. Okay. And assuming all else being equal, that means line 10 revenue for the companies would be lower for -- than for Duke, DP&L, and AEP.
  - A. If all else is equal.
- Q. And, again, all else being equal, that means the cost cap for the companies would be lower for the companies than Duke, DP&L, and AEP?
  - A. If all else is equal.
- Q. Mr. Donlon, let's focus momentarily here on the "Residential Sales" column of this report. Do you see that in about the middle of the figures that are provided?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. If you take a look at residential sales for Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, the figure for Electric Choice sales switch rates is 71.21 percent; is that correct?
- A. Did you say "Cleveland"?
- 24 Q. Yes, sir.
- 25 A. Yes.

Q. And I take it that means that 71.21 percent of the total megawatt-hours sold to residential customers for CEI, or Cleveland Electric, were provided by Electric Choice suppliers; is that right?

2.1

THE WITNESS: Sorry, can you reread that? (Record read.)

- A. Again, caveating generation, yes.
- Q. Okay. And the flip side of that is shown on the line just above that figure, is it not, and specifically the question is, that means that only 28.79 percent of the total megawatt-hours sold to residential customers were provided by Cleveland Electric under their Standard Service Offer; is that right?
  - A. For generation, yes.
- Q. And I appreciate that clarification. For this line of questioning, can we assume when we are talking about this, we are talking about generation?
  - A. That's fine.
  - Q. Okay. Thank you.

Let's take a look at AEP's residential figure, if we could. According to the Exhibit 13 and the demonstrative, that shows residential sales for AEP Ohio. The figure for Electric Choice sales

switch rate is 32.88 percent; is that right?

Α. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

23

24

Ο. And that means that only 32.88 percent of the total megawatt-hours sold to residential customers by AEP Ohio were provided by Electric Choice suppliers, correct?

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, I blanked on the numbers that he said. I am sure they are right since he is just reading this off, but...

(Record read.)

- Α. Yes.
- Okay. And, again, the flip-side, doing Q. the math, as shown on the chart in Exhibit 13, is that 67.12 percent of the total megawatt-hours sold to residential customers were provided by AEP Ohio under its Standard Service Offer, correct?
  - Α. That is correct.
  - Let's turn briefly to the two other Q. FirstEnergy companies. If we take a look at the column called "Residential Sales" for Ohio Edison, the figure for Electric Choice sales switch rates is 65.17 percent; is that correct?
    - Α. Yes.
- And, again, that means that 34.83 percent 25 of the total megawatt-hours sold to residential

customers by Ohio Edison were provided under its Standard Service Offer, correct?

A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. And if we take a look finally at the column on the board for residential sales for Toledo Edison, the figure for Electric Choice sales rates -- switch rates is 65.57 percent?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And, again, by consequence, that means that 34.43 percent of the total megawatt-hours sold to residential customers were provided by Toledo Edison under its Standard Service Offer, correct?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know, Mr. Donlon, what the -- and you can set that exhibit aside. I think we're done, so we don't block our friends at the end of the table anymore.
- MR. GLADMAN: If it's okay, your Honor, we would like to leave that up; we may have a few others to look at. Thank you.
- Q. Mr. Donlon, do you know what the Standard Service Offer is for the FirstEnergy companies?
  - A. Not off the top of my head, no.
  - Q. Okay. Let's --
- MR. GLADMAN: May we approach, your

418 Honor? 1 2 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure. 3 MR. GLADMAN: For the record we are going to mark as Company Exhibit 14, a document titled "A 4 5 Report by the Staff of the Public Utilities 6 Commission of Ohio, Ohio Utility Rate Survey, 7 December 1, 2015." (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.) 8 9 Ο. Mr. Donlon, do you have Company Exhibit 10 14 in front of you? 11 Α. Yes. 12 Ο. And is this a document you've seen before? 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 Ο. And this is a document that was prepared 16 by your department? 17 As long as it was pulled off the website, Α. 18 yes. 19 And I will represent to you that it was. Ο. 20 MR. GLADMAN: And, accordingly, ask if we 2.1 could take administrative notice of this one? 22 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Yeah, for all these 23 exhibits, if you could provide us with the URL where 24 it's posted, that may be helpful.

Okay.

MR. GLADMAN:

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Not right now.

MR. GLADMAN: Okay. We will provide that. Thank you, your Honor.

2.1

- Q. Mr. Donlon, if we can take a look at the table at the top of the fourth page of this document, which is titled "Ohio Energy Bills Residential Customers, 8 Major Ohio Cities, As of December 1, 2015." Do you see that?
  - A. Which one are you on? I'm sorry.
- Q. It's the fourth physical page of the document as of December 31.
- A. I thought you said fourth table, I apologize. Okay.
  - Q. If you look at the column "Per kilowatt-hour" for the City of Cleveland which is in Cleveland Electric's territory, would you agree that the dollars per kilowatt-hour is .14 cents, representing the average Cleveland Electric customer rate for electric Standard Service Offer customers?
    - A. That is what it shows, yeah.
  - Q. Okay. And just hit a couple more here. For the City of Toledo, same column, which is in Toledo Edison's territory, would you agree that the dollars per kilowatt-hour is also 14 cents; again representing the average Toledo Edison customer rate

for electric Standard Service Offer customers?

A. Yes.

2.1

Q. And also then for the cities of Akron and Youngstown, which are in Ohio Edison's territories, would you agree the dollars per kilowatt-hour is also .14, representing, again, the average Ohio Edison customer rate for electric Standard Service Offer customers?

THE WITNESS: Can you repeat that, please.

MR. GLADMAN: Would you read that back. (Record read.)

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And finally, again, looking at the column "Per kilowatt-hours" for the cities of Canton, and Columbus which are in AEP's Ohio territory, would you agree that the dollars per kilowatt-hour is also .14, representing the average AEP customer rate for electric Standard Service Offer customers?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. You can put that one aside, thank you.

Mr. Donlon, you testified yesterday that staff had looked at EE acquisition rates as part of its cost cap development process, but ultimately

decided not to use that metric; is that correct?

A. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

- Q. Okay. I would like to talk about that decision just a little bit here. And some of this may require you to do a little bit of basic math. I don't know if you have an iPhone or something you can calculate on. If not, we can provide one for you.
- A. No. I left it over there so I don't get distracted.
- Q. Fair point. I try to turn mine upside-down.
- 12 A. It will just keep buzzing. Took off my
  13 smart watch too.
- Q. I can relate to that. Why don't we just do this so you have got it up there.

MR. GLADMAN: May I approach, your Honor?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Yes.

MR. JONES: I would just make an objection to this line of questioning since this isn't the methodology that the staff ultimately chose to pursue, so they went a different route, different methodology, so this isn't relevant to the proceedings.

MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, this clearly
goes -- Mr. Donlon testified they considered all the

options in preparing the cost cap. This is one he specifically called out as they considered and rejected, and I would like to explore where this would have gone if, in fact, they had considered this method and implemented it. I think that's fair.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay. I am going to give you a little leeway. I don't know that we need to have him run the numbers, though, if you just asked it subject to check.

MR. GLADMAN: Okay. Fair enough.

11 EXAMINER BULGRIN: It will speed things

12 up.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

13

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

MR. GLADMAN: Happy to do that.

14 THE WITNESS: Do you want your phone

15 back? Sorry.

MR. GLADMAN: Thanks.

17 THE WITNESS: Yep.

Q. (By Mr. Gladman) Mr. Donlon, under staff's proposed 3 percent cost cap, the companies would be permitted to spend \$80,099,551 on energy efficiency and peak-demand reduction programs in 2017 as set forth on page 5, lines 92 to 95 of your testimony; is that right?

- A. That is correct.
- Q. Okay. And you understand from the

companies' filings in this case that their statutory energy efficiency benchmark for 2017 is 535.23 gigawatt-hours?

2.1

- A. That sounds correct based on forecasted energy sales.
- Q. Okay. And I'll represent to you that that figure is reflected in Company Exhibit 1, the Denise Mullins amended direct testimony which was admitted without objection, I believe.

And so, again, doing the math 535.23 gigawatt-hours is 535,230,000 kilowatt hours? Is that -- I will represent that to you. Does that sound right?

- A. I didn't realize there was a question.

  I'm not that good at math. I will, subject to check.
- Q. Okay. Fair enough. And that's understood. Yeah, the decimal points can get tricky when you are doing those calculations.

So if we take the cost cap amount of 80,099,551 and divide by the 2017 benchmark of 535,230,000 kilowatt-hours, that gives us 14.9 cents per kilowatt-hour acquisition costs for the companies; would you agree with that, subject to check?

A. Subject to check.

Q. Okay. In other words, with the revised program portfolio plans being capped, under your proposal, at \$80.1 million, and with the 2017 statutory benchmark of 535.23 gigawatt-hours, the companies would need to implement programs under their plans in 2017 that save energy at a cost of about 15 cents per kilowatt-hour in order to meet those benchmarks; is that right?

A. Subject to check.

MR. GLADMAN: May we approach again, your Honor?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.

- Q. And, Mr. Donlon, is it fair to say that the demonstrative we have put up represents that mathematical calculation that we just walked through?
  - A. It appears to.
- Q. Okay. And that acquisition cost would not consider the impact of potential shared savings the companies may earn under staff's cost cap proposal; is that fair to say?

THE WITNESS: Can you reread that?

(Record read.)

- A. I guess that depends on how you view it and calculate it.
  - Q. Sure. Let me ask it a little bit

different way. My understanding of your cost cap proposal is that program costs, plus pretax shared savings, less the PJM offset, cannot exceed 3 percent. So my question is, this metric that we put up here does not consider the potential impact of any shared savings which would impact the calculation; is that fair to say?

- A. And maybe this is just semantics, but I guess it depends on how you calculate it. So how you think about it, it could, it couldn't, depending on how you really want to think about that framework.
- Q. Okay. So -- let me try it this way.

  Under your cost cap proposal, the companies have approximately \$80.1 million to spend on program costs and pretax shared savings. Let's set-aside the PJM offset for a moment. Is that accurate?
  - A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. So the 80.1 that's reflected in this to spend on actual EE programs assumes no shared savings in that metric; is that right?
- A. If that's what the company is proposing, then I will accept that as the answer, but that's not how staff is viewing it. So I think that gets back to the "depends on how you want to slice and dice the number."

Q. Okay. Fair enough. So let me ask one more to try to sum up and I will move off. I think we are saying the same thing, but maybe a little bit differently.

Fair to say if you consider program costs and shared savings, the total cap that you guys have proposed is \$80.1 million, however you slice it.

A. Uh-huh.

2.1

- Q. Is that a "yes"?
- A. Oh, sorry. Also including the PJM offset, yes.
  - Q. I appreciate that clarification.

Do you know how that approximately

15-cent spending cap per kilowatt-hour saved under

staff's proposal compares to other Ohio utilities?

- A. Off the top of my head, I do not.
- Q. Is that something staff considered when contemplating and considering the acquisition cost metric?
- A. Yeah. As I said yesterday, staff considered many different proposals. This was one we discussed. We decided not to go with this, and I don't remember exactly all of the computations that went into it, so.
  - Q. Okay. Fair enough. Let's take a look at

AEP. Under staff's 4 percent cost cap, fair to say that AEP is permitted to spend approximately \$110,310,902 on EE and PDR programs in 2017?

2.1

2.2

MR. JONES: I would object, your Honor.

That's a different plan. There's different -
different budgets involved with that -- that case.

It's not -- it's not the same as FirstEnergy.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: A little leeway I'll grant you.

MR. GLADMAN: Let me just say where I am going. I want to do the same calculation for each of the others and then I will move off of this.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: That would be good.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you.

- Q. Do you know whether or not -- and I can show you the document from the AEP order if that would help refresh your recollection about what the cost cap is for AEP. Would that be useful?
- A. I know the cost cap is 110 million. The rest of it, you know, where the variance is, I'll believe that subject to check.
- Q. So subject to check. And also accurate to say that AEP's statutory energy efficiency benchmark for 2017 is approximately 431,700,000 kilowatt-hours?

- A. Subject to check. I don't have that off the top of my head.
  - Q. Fair enough.

2.1

MR. GLADMAN: Okay. So may we approach again?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor.

MR. HEALEY: Your Honor, I am going to object to this, too, as irrelevant. We are talking about a comparison of a metric that staff has already stated they did not use and now we are talking about that metric as it applies to another utility. We are getting really far outside the realm of what's going on in this proceeding here.

MR. JONES: Your Honor.

MR. GLADMAN: You have already ruled on this objection. I have already made this argument that Mr. Donlon has testified one of his goals in implementing this cost cap was to ensure consistency across the utilities. We are entitled to explore all the options he considered. I will do so briefly.

MR. JONES: I will object. You gave a little leeway, now we are trying to bust down the door and go all the way down the road.

MR. GLADMAN: I already told your Honor

what I was going to do.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Slightly a little more leeway, but let's wrap this up.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor.

- Q. And if we take the cost cap amount for AEP of \$110,310,902 and divide by their 2017 benchmark of 431,700,000 kilowatt-hours, that would give us that same metric, which here is 25.25 cents per kilowatt-hour; is that correct?
  - A. Subject to check your math.
- Q. Okay. And finally, let's take a look at DP&L. Under staff's 4 percent cost cap, DP&L is permitted to spend approximately \$33,022,141 on EE/PDR programs in 2017?
  - MR. HEALEY: I would object to this, your Honor. That case has not been approved, so we are talking about a proposal in the other case; not an actual order.

MR. JONES: I object too.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: I'll sustain on this.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor.

Q. Fair to say then, Mr. Donlon, that staff is recommending that the FirstEnergy companies spend no more than 15 cents per kilowatt-hour saved while, at the same time, permitting AEP to spend 25.5 cents

per kilowatt-hour saved?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

14

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

MR. GLADMAN: Could we approach with a comparison to make sure he has got the numbers in front of him?

MR. JONES: I would object, again, your Honor to the comparison being made in this proceeding.

Does that, Mr. Donlon, fairly summarize 0. the calculation we just walked through?

10 EXAMINER BULGRIN: I will overrule your 11 objection. You can answer this last question.

12 THE WITNESS: Which company am I supposed 13 to answer because he asked two?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Can you rephrase your 15 question?

16 MR. GLADMAN: Sure.

- Q. Is this a demonstrative you are looking at, which reflects the acquisition cost of the FirstEnergy companies of 14.96 cents per kilowatt-hour, and AEP Ohio of 25.55 cents per kilowatt-hour, accurately reflect the calculations we just walked through?
- 23 Α. While staff does not agree that it's 24 relevant, it is a representation of the numbers you 25 just calculated.

Q. Okay. Out of curiosity -- and you can take that down so we don't block the end of the table -- how much would the companies be permitted to spend under a 4 percent cap to achieve their 535 gigawatt-hour statutory benchmark?

2.1

MR. JONES: I would object again, your Honor, not relevant. That's not staff's proposal in this proceeding. It's 3 percent; not 4 percent.

MR. GLADMAN: Again, I am exploring the inconsistency. They are using 4 percent for others. We are just doing a very quick comparison of what the math would be.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Very quick comparison.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor.

- Q. Let me ask this again. Subject to check, if we use the FERC line 10 information included on page 5, lines 92 through 95 of your testimony, which is \$2,669,985,047, and multiply that times 4 percent, is it accurate to say that you would have a 4 percent cost cap of \$106,799,401?
  - A. That sounds roughly accurate.
- Q. And if I divide that amount by the statutory benchmark of 535,230,000, I get an acquisition cost of 19.95 cents per kilowatt-hour, subject to check?

432 1 Α. Subject to check. 2 MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, it might be 3 good for maybe just a 5-minute break. Is that okay? EXAMINER BULGRIN: Let's take 5 minutes. 4 5 (Recess taken.) 6 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Let's go back on the 7 record. 8 MR. GLADMAN: Thank you, your Honor. 9 Ο. Mr. Donlon, we discussed yesterday the 10 fact that the statutory requirements for utilities' 11 EE/PDR obligations in this state stem from Revised 12 Code 4928.66. Do you recall that conversation? 13 Α. Yes. 14 And, again, 4928.66 requires an EDU to Ο. 15 implement energy efficiency and peak-demand reduction 16 programs that achieve certain statutory benchmarks 17 for any given year, correct? 18 Correct. Α. 19 Also fair to say that 4928.66, itself, 20 says nothing about a specific cost cap on energy 2.1 efficiency, correct? 2.2 As I said yesterday, it doesn't say Α. 23 anything specifically for or against the cost cap. 24 Okay. And same question with respect to

Administrative Code provision 4901:1-3-904 that we

discussed yesterday. Is there anything expressly authorizing cost cap and energy efficiency in that section?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

MR. JONES: Object, your Honor. This has already been asked and answered yesterday.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sustained.

Q. Mr. Donlon, would you agree that staff's cost cap proposal would add cost requirements that are not currently part of Ohio law?

MR. JONES: Objection, your Honor.

Calling for a legal opinion, legal conclusion. I

think this question was asked yesterday, too.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sustained.

- Q. Okay. Sir, are you familiar with Ohio Revised Code 111.15 relating to PUCO rulemaking provisions?
  - A. Could you provide that?
  - Q. Sure, I can.

MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, if we could mark as Company Exhibit 15, Revised Code 111.15.

MR. JONES: And object, your Honor.

There is no foundation as to how we are getting to this statute for him to discuss it.

MR. GLADMAN: I am about to lay that foundation by asking.

434 1 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Objection. Very 2 little leeway on this. 3 MR. GLADMAN: Okay. EXAMINER BULGRIN: Is this statute for 4 5 the actual rulemaking? 6 MR. GLADMAN: Yes. 7 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay. (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.) 8 9 Ο. (By Mr. Gladman) Mr. Donlon, do you have 10 what we have marked as Company Exhibit 15 in front of 11 you? 12 Α. I do. 13 Q. And is that a provision that you're familiar with? 14 15 MR. JONES: I would object, your Honor. This is beyond the scope of his testimony. It's not 16 17 relevant to the proceeding. 18 MR. GLADMAN: The questions are about how 19 this cost cap is being implemented. It is very 20 relevant to this proceeding. 2.1 EXAMINER BULGRIN: I am going to sustain 22 the objection. 23 MR. GLADMAN: Okay. 24 Mr. Donlon, is it true that staff has Ο. recommended certain proposed changes to the Ohio

Administrative Code provisions relating to rules on energy efficiency programs?

3 MR. JONES: Objection, your Honor.

4 Relevance.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

23

24

MR. GLADMAN: I am going to ask him whether or not they have proposed a rule relating to the cost cap.

MR. HEALEY: I make the same objection, your Honor. This is irrelevant. This is not a rulemaking proceeding.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sustained.

Q. (By Mr. Gladman) Mr. Donlon, are you aware of any other Commission-administered programs that have a cost cap implemented by statute or Revised Code or Administrative Code provision?

MR. JONES: Objection, that was asked and answered yesterday.

MR. GLADMAN: Not asked and answered that question.

MR. JONES: He asked him about other states yesterday, your Honor.

MR. GLADMAN: I am asking about Ohio.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: How much more?

MR. JONES: The Commissions; didn't you

25 | say other Commissions?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Excuse me. How much more do we have on this?

MR. GLADMAN: On this particular topic?

Just a very few questions. There's a --

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay. I will allow you one more question. What was the pending question? I'm sorry.

MR. GLADMAN: Can I ask a different one if I get one?

## EXAMINER BULGRIN: Yes.

- Q. (By Mr. Gladman) Mr. Donlon, are you aware that there are Revised Code and Administrative Code provisions implementing a cost cap for Ohio EDUs' alternative energy resource requirements?
  - A. I am.

2.1

2.2

- Q. Let's turn to your objection to the request in the stipulation that the Commission approve lowering the shared savings trigger for the companies in 2017. Fair to say that your understanding is that the stipulation filed in this case provides for the reduction of the companies' shared savings trigger for 2017 only?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And so it does not recommend in the stipulation any changes to the triggers for 2018 or

'19?

1

2.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

A. Correct.

- Q. Fair to say that the companies first filed their proposed energy efficiency and peak-demand reduction plans -- peak-demand reduction plans with the Commission in April of 2016?
  - A. Subject to check. I am bad with dates.
- Q. Fair enough. And that means that the companies filed their plans over nine months ago; is that correct?
  - A. Subject to check.
- Q. And fair to say that staff reviewed those proposed plans shortly after they were filed with the Commission?
  - A. I --
- MR. JONES: I would object as to the relevance.
- MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, Company Witness
  Miller was cross-examined on the docket on the delays
  that have occurred in this case, and I want to
  briefly go through some of that with Mr. Donlon.
- MR. JONES: Your Honor, Mr. Donlon's testimony doesn't speak to that.
- MR. GLADMAN: If we can have a stipulation that the docket accurately reflects that

staff moved for a continuance in January of 2016, that staff moved for --

2.

2.1

EXAMINER BULGRIN: I think the record is what it is. I think you can look at the docket card and make that argument, so let's move on.

MR. GLADMAN: Okay. I appreciate that, your Honor. Thank you.

- Q. (By Mr. Gladman) Mr. Donlon, is it fair to say the companies may elect to wait to implement some or all of their programs until after Commission approval?
- A. The company has that choice. I know other companies have implemented or continued to run their programs while not having an order, but that's the companies' prerogative.
- Q. Okay. Do you have any opinion, yourself, on whether that's a reasonable or unreasonable choice?

MR. JONES: Objection, your Honor.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: I'll overrule. You can answer that.

- A. Speaking for staff, I think that's the companies' decision, not staff's.
- Q. Once the programs are ultimately
  approved, do you understand there is a ramp-up period

before the launch of many energy efficiency programs?

2.1

- A. Considering that the company suspended their program under Senate Bill 2 -- 1 -- 310, sorry, that seems reasonable.
- Q. Would you agree that the delay in getting the Commission order and that ramp-up period would make it more difficult for the companies to achieve their statutory benchmarks in 2017?
- A. If the companies' choice is to wait until the final order to do that, which is again the companies' choice, and based on the companies' decision to suspend their program for two years, that seems plausible.

MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, I think I am just about done. Could I have just one quick moment to confer with my colleagues and wrap up?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.

MR. GLADMAN: Thank you.

(Discussion off the record.)

MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, subject to recross and admission of Company Exhibits 11, 12, 13, and 14, we don't have any further questions of Mr. Donlon at this time, and I thank you for your time, sir.

THE WITNESS: Thank you.

FirstEnergy Volume III 440 1 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Mr. Kelter. 2 MR. KELTER: Can you give me a couple of minutes just to go through my cross to see if I can 3 eliminate some more of it based on what we did this 4 5 morning? EXAMINER BULGRIN: Do you want another 5 6 7 minutes? 8 MR. KELTER: Yeah. That would be great. 9 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay. 5-minute break. 10 We will be back at 10:30. 11 (Recess taken.) 12 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Let's go back on the 13 record. 14 Mr. Kelter. 15 MR. KELTER: We're back on the record? 16 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: We are back on the 17 record. 18 19 CROSS-EXAMINATION 20 By Mr. Kelter: 2.1 Ο. Good morning, Mr. Donlon. My name is Rob 22 Kelter. I represent the Environmental Law & Policy

- 23 Center, and I've got a few questions for you today.
- 24 Α. Good morning.
- 25 Q. At this point, is it fair to say that

you've familiarized yourself with FirstEnergy's energy efficiency programs?

- A. The individual programs, at a high level I have knowledge on, but certainly not the intimate knowledge of each program.
- Q. You're aware that FirstEnergy has a collaborative process, aren't you?
  - A. Yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

- Q. And the collaborative process meets quarterly at the Commission, doesn't it?
- A. Where and how often, I'm not -- I don't -- I haven't attended them, but my staff does.
  - Q. Has staff participated in that process?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. And is it fair to say that part of the purpose of the collaborative is for staff and other intervenors to have input on the efficiency programs?
  - A. That is my understanding of it, yes.
- Q. Do you recall when FirstEnergy first submitted its draft plan to the collaborative?
  - A. I do not.
- Q. Would you agree that it's several months before it was actually filed with the Commission?

MR. JONES: Object, your Honor. He doesn't have knowledge.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: You can answer it if you know.

- A. Subject to -- subject to check, I'm willing to accept that.
- Q. And do you recall when FirstEnergy first filed its efficiency plan with the Commission?
- A. Again, I think FirstEnergy's Counsel said it was April or May. I am really bad with dates, so. I have got a lot of cases that come through my department.
  - Q. So subject to check, April?
- A. I am willing to accept that.
- Q. Can you name any proposed programs from that April 15 plan that staff suggested FirstEnergy modify?
  - A. Are you speaking of the individual programs?
    - Q. Yeah.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

- A. Staff only takes -- staff is agnostic to the individual programs other than specific programs that shouldn't count for shared savings. So, to my knowledge, we haven't really taken a stance, at least in this case, maybe in some of the collaboratives we might have, but on the individual programs.
  - Q. Back in April, did staff ever express

concerns about the cost of the overall plan?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

20

25

- A. Not being in those meetings, I don't know if staff did address that or not.
- Q. When did staff first express concerns about the cost of the plan?

MR. HEALEY: I would object, your Honor, to the extent this could potentially call for confidential settlement negotiations.

MR. JONES: I would join the objection.

MR. KELTER: Your Honor, this is just the date; none of the substance of the negotiations.

MR. HEALEY: Well, your Honor --

MR. KELTER: As to the times.

MS. FLEISHER: Your Honor, the collaboratives are not generally a confidential forum. I don't believe it's anyone's understanding what goes on there is confidential.

18 EXAMINER BULGRIN: Let's go off the 19 record here for a minute.

(Discussion off the record.)

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Let's go back on the record.

MR. KELTER: Actually, can I have the question reread, please.

(Record read.)

EXAMINER BULGRIN: You can answer if you know.

2.1

A. So I'm fuzzy on what I can say about settlement and what I can't. And individually in the collaboratives I'm not sure. Staff had a strong stance for a one-year program that was met through settlement talks with very strong resistance. Staff went back and tried to figure out a different way to address our concerns.

So if you are talking about concerns with cost, I think it was early on in the process because of how we did that. If you are taking about specifically the cost cap, that was later because we adjusted where we were coming from due to settlement talks.

MR. KELTER: Well, your Honor, the witness just opened the door on discussing some of the substance of those talks. I think it's fair that we ask, given what he just said about the staff proposing a one-year plan, that he tell us when staff first proposed the three-year plan -- I'm sorry, the 3 percent cost cap.

MR. JONES: Your Honor, he did not open the door. He just tried to explain generally how things developed over the months.

MR. KELTER: He did. He just said in negotiations staff proposed a one-year plan.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: I'll allow you to answer if you know when the cost cap was first proposed by staff.

THE WITNESS: I do not.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

MR. HEALEY: I would just like to object for the record, your Honor. I still believe this is a confidential settlement communication just so we have that on the record.

MR. JONES: I would object, too, your
Honor.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Those objections are duly noted.

And, I'm sorry, your answer?

THE WITNESS: Is I am really bad about dates and I have no idea what the date was, but I'm sure -- it was on a settlement call, and I'm sure that one of the parties knows that date. I don't know it.

- Q. (By Mr. Kelter) Generally speaking, do you know the month?
- A. Honestly, no.
- Q. Do you know if it was -- do you know the season of the year?

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay.

2.1

MR. JONES: Objection, your Honor.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sustained.

MR. KELTER: Your Honor, I would like to make an offer of proof here. The witness was involved in these discussions. He just said that staff had offered, in negotiations, that it wanted a one-year plan. It's incredible to believe that he has no idea when they proposed a 3 percent cap.

MR. HEALEY: Your Honor, I move to strike Mr. Kelter's comments as irrelevant and testimony of Counsel.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: I'll grant that.

14 Let's move on.

- Q. (By Mr. Kelter) Let's turn to page 5 of your amended testimony. Are you there?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. At page 5, line 105 of your amended testimony, you state "the costs have been escalating to the point that the rider in which the energy efficiency costs are collected has become one of the highest riders on residential customers' bills," correct?
- A. Yes.
- 25 Q. How much is that rider for the average

residential customer?

2.1

2.2

- A. For -- as of October of 2016, depending on which company you're talking about --
  - O. First --
- A. There's three FirstEnergy companies. So in -- one is roughly just under, as of that date, for a 750-kilowatt-hour customer, it was roughly a buck-98 up to, I think the highest one of the three companies was 2.90 something.

So, again, it's the -- for two of the companies, and I said which ones yesterday and now I am blanking on which ones they were, two of the companies it was the fourth highest out of 16 riders, and the third it was the fifth highest out of 16 riders as of October of '16.

- Q. Do you know what percentage of the average customer's bill that rider would represent?
  - A. No, I don't.
- Q. And are you aware of any other riders on the customer bill that actually produces savings that can lower the customer's bill?
- A. I think that question implies also that energy efficiency does so, not addressing that assumption --
- Q. Let's address that assumption. Do you

believe that energy efficiency has the potential to save customers money on their bill?

- A. That's -- it has the potential, yes.
- Q. Do you believe that it does save some customers money on their bill?
  - A. Some customers, yes.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

- Q. Now, I will go back to my original question. Are you aware of any other riders that -- that have the potential to reduce customers' bills?
- A. There are other riders that have the potential to reduce other -- or some customers' bills, yes, other than this one.
  - Q. Can you tell us which ones those are?
- A. I don't have the exact -- because of all the different EDUs have different names for their riders and put costs in different items, but economic development is one that can reduce costs for some than others. Universal Service Fund is one that reduces costs for some. So those are two off the top of my head I can think do.
- Q. So I think you acknowledged that -- well, strike that.
- Would you agree that participants in the programs save money on their bills?
- 25 A. Energy e-- customers that participate in

the energy efficiency rebates and programs, yes.

- Q. And do you know an average of how much?
- A. I do not.

2.1

- Q. And do you know how many FirstEnergy customers are projected to be participate -- participants in FirstEnergy's revised plan, participants in the programs under FirstEnergy's revised plan?
  - A. Off the top of my head, I do not.
- Q. So -- well, do you have any projections of how many fewer customers might take advantage of the discount and rebates under the 3 percent cap compared to FirstEnergy's revised plan?
- A. Staff does not believe there is a link between the -- that there should be a link between the two.
- Q. And do you believe that nonparticipants benefit from the plan as well as participants?
  - A. I think that's very debatable.

MR. KELTER: Your Honor, I would like to show the witness a letter from the Commission that addresses this issue, if I could approach.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Sure.

MR. KELTER: This will be marked as ELPC Exhibit 1.

EXAMINER BULGRIN: Okay. It will be so marked.

## (EXHIBIT MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

- Q. Mr. Donlon, do you have before you a letter from the PUCO to the Ohio legislature Study Committee dated February 26, 2015?
  - A. I do.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

- Q. Are you familiar with this letter?
- A. I am.
- Q. So you don't have any doubt of its authenticity?
- A. I do not.
- Q. Can you turn to page 2 and, just for context, can you please read the first sentence of the letter?
  - A. "The following data and information has been compiled by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) in order to respond to questions posed by the Energy" Study -- "Energy Mandate Study Committee (Study Committee) on November 26, 2014."
- Q. And did you -- did you participate in the preparation of this?
- 23 A. I did.
- Q. Okay. Could you please turn to page 12 and you see there is a heading "Market price

suppression"?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

13

14

15

16

17

- A. Yes.
- Q. And can you please just review the first two paragraphs?
  - A. I have.
  - Q. Okay. Are you ready for a question?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, if you go down a few lines -- well, it says -- the second paragraph says, "The PUCO forecasted how an overall 1 percent reduction in demand affects wholesales pricing," correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
  - Q. And then it says that the PUCO estimates a per megawatt-hour market price decrease from \$52.71 to \$49.87 per megawatt-hour, correct?
  - A. Yes.
  - Q. And that this results in a 5.7 percent price reduction for customers, correct?
- A. No. It says in the "wholesale market,"
  but it doesn't necessarily mean that it gets back to
  residential customers.
- Q. 5.7 percent reduction for the wholesale
  market. Did you do any analysis of what wholesale
  price suppression benefits might be from
  FirstEnergy's programs in its revised plan?

- A. Can you expand on what you mean by that?

  I'm sorry. I want to make sure I get the --
- Q. Sure. Well, FirstEnergy -- I think we've established that this letter says there's some wholesale market price suppression when you reduce demand. Would you agree with that?
  - A. On the wholesale level.
- Q. Yes. So what I am asking is FirstEnergy submitted its revised energy efficiency plan, and I am asking if staff did any analysis on what the wholesale market price suppression would be from that revised plan?
  - A. We did not.

2.1

- Q. Okay. And did you analyze how the wholesale price suppression might be affected by the 3 percent cap?
  - A. We did not.
- Q. This next question may have been asked, I don't think it was asked the way I am going to ask it, but it's hard to keep it all straight at this point. Would you agree that it's possible FirstEnergy will not be able to achieve the same level of savings under a 3 percent cap as it would under the revised plan?
  - A. Which savings? Are you talking about

shared savings? Energy efficiency savings?

- Q. Energy efficiency savings.
- A. I want to make sure we are all on the same page with "savings."
- Q. And the question is, is it possible that they wouldn't be able to achieve the same level of savings?
  - A. It's possible.

1

2.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

23

24

- Q. FirstEnergy and alternative suppliers purchase electricity for customers on the wholesale market, correct?
- A. While the energy is purchased on the wholesale market, there is not a direct correlation to consumers and residentials get the wholesale market price, but, yes, purchase on the wholesale.
- Q. Okay. And would you agree that the less energy customers use, the less energy FirstEnergy and the competitive suppliers have to purchase on the wholesale market?
  - A. That would be a lineal deduction.
    - Q. So that would be a yes, you would agree?
      - A. For the most part.
- Q. Would you agree that FirstEnergy's efficiency programs help customers use less energy?
  - A. For the participating customers, yes.

454 1 Q. That overall in the entire pool of 2 customers, if the participants use less energy, the whole pool uses less energy; is that correct? 3 MR. JONES: Objection, asked and 4 5 answered. MR. KELTER: That wasn't asked and 6 7 answered. EXAMINER BULGRIN: I will overrule. You 8 9 can answer if you know. 10 MR. HEALEY: I will object as incomplete 11 hypothetical, as well, your Honor. 12 MR. KELTER: I don't understand the 13 objection. 14 MR. HEALEY: Is he creating some 15 hypothetical world where we are talking about? 16 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: I will overrule. You 17 can ask. 18 THE WITNESS: Could you repeat that, 19 please. 20 (Record read.) 2.1 So if the question is asking if the 22 energy efficiency portfolios lower the overall demand 23 of FirstEnergy, then yes. 24 Would you agree that energy efficiency Ο.

reduces usage at peak times?

- A. Reviewing the information I've seen, that is accurate.
- Q. Would you agree that energy efficiency benefits nonparticipants by reducing the amount of energy FirstEnergy purchases on the market?
  - A. No, I would not.
  - Q. Why is that?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

12

13

14

15

16

17

- A. FirstEnergy is -- doesn't actually
  purchase --
- Q. Well, somebody purchases for FirstEnergy, the auction.
  - A. For the wholesale market there is a -there is the potential for a price suppression as our
    forecast laid out.
  - Q. Would you agree that if the Commission imposes a 3 percent cap, that FirstEnergy may need to purchase additional electricity to meet demand beyond what it would purchase under the revised plan?
- MR. JONES: Objection, speculation, what they may do.
- 21 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: I'll overrule. You 22 can answer if you know.
- A. Clarifying, again, FirstEnergy, but in the auction or the CRES providers in the FirstEnergy territory -- actually, now I blanked on the

1 question.

2 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Could you maybe reask

3 | it?

THE WITNESS: Or just reread it, I'm

5 sorry.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

(Record read.)

- A. Again, with the clarification on who is purchasing it, I think there is always a possibility, but staff does not believe it is a likely possibility, particularly in this portfolio plan.
- Q. Does staff believe that programs produce long-term savings and provide added value over programs that produce short-term savings?
- A. Staff, in this case, is not taking a stance on the individual programs.
- Q. That wasn't my question. I'm asking, in general, do you believe that energy efficiency programs that produce long-term savings provide value over programs that produce short-term savings?
- A. Staff is not taking an opinion on that at this time.
- Q. Do you have an opinion on that? You said staff is not taking an opinion, so I want to clarify do you personally --

25 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: I think that's

enough.

2.1

2 MR. JONES: Objection.

3 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: That's enough. Let's 4 move on.

Q. All right. Let's change to page 7, line 122 of your testimony. Is that right? I'm sorry. That's not right. Give me one second here. Give me a second. I have got a bunch of questions about the programs that I am not going to ask because you've said that -- that staff is not taking a position on any of the programs, correct? So I am going to try to save us some time, save some objections.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: We appreciate that.

MR. KELTER: Just give me one minute.

Q. So given your previous answers on the programs, is it fair to say that staff has not made any recommendations regarding what programs

FirstEnergy should modify in order to meet the 3 percent cap?

MR. JONES: Objection, asked and answered.

22 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: I'll let him answer.

MR. HEALEY: Objection, your Honor, to it also assumes facts not in evidence. It assumes there must be modifications to comply with the cap which is

not in the record.

2.1

2 MR. KELTER: I'll clarify that, your 3 Honor.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Thank you.

Q. (By Mr. Kelter) If -- if the company needs to make modifications -- actually, strike that.

Does staff acknowledge that the company might have to make some modifications to the plan in order to meet the 3 percent cost cap?

- A. Might?
- Q. Yeah.
- A. They may.
- Q. And has staff done any projections regarding what programs it believes FirstEnergy should modify in order to meet the cap?
- A. So staff's opinion is the company should manage the program as it sees fit. Staff's role, as the regulatory body, is putting parameters around, a guardrail, in auditing for prudency and that that work was done so this is staff wouldn't get into doesn't believe they should micromanage to that level for the company, but we are putting up the guardrails.
- Q. So is it fair to characterize that last answer is a "no," with the qualifications you just

gave? Does staff --

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

23

24

25

- A. Can you repeat the question? I'm sorry.

  Just to make sure I do have it. Or reread it.
- Q. I believe the question is, has staff done any projections regarding what programs FirstEnergy should modify in order to meet the cap?
  - A. No.
  - Q. Thank you.

If the Commission orders FirstEnergy to adjust its plan for a three-year cost cap, does staff envision the company filing a new plan?

A. No.

MR. JONES: Objection, speculation.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: I'll overrule the objection.

- A. I talked too quick. No. Again, it is actually staff's belief that the company can achieve the mandate and all that they need to under the cap with their current plan.
- Q. Can you turn to page 6, line 131 of your amended testimony.
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Here you state that "Each year the Companies file an annual rider case...in which Staff audits the prudence of the costs incurred and

included in the rider," correct?

A. Correct.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

- Q. And that process would occur under the current FE -- FirstEnergy plan the company has proposed, correct?
- A. Yes. That audit is really looking at an accounting prudency. And what that is talking about is the accounting prudency of it.
- Q. Well, just to clarify, you are looking at whether the company's meeting the goals in the plan, aren't you, in that annual review?
- A. Not in this rider, no. This rider is really an accounting and cost recovery review. And making sure that the accounting is there that the -- those items that go into the rider are prudent.
- Q. There is some annual review process to make sure that the company's conforming to the plan and meeting its goals; is that correct?
- A. That's an EM&V problem which, yes, it is, but that's not what I was referring to in this question.
  - Q. Okay. Thanks.

23 Turning to page 7, line 154, there you 24 state that "The Stipulation lacks a provision 25 controlling the costs of programs and shared

savings," correct?

2.1

2.2

- A. Correct.
- Q. When the Commission approves a plan, is the company authorized to spend more money than the amount in the plan?
- A. I think in the authorization, they can always seek recovery after that, and they can go over and then seek for that recovery. So while I think the authorization is -- the simple answer is no, but there is not necessarily a hard stop either, because they could always spend more and ask for a recovery.
- Q. Okay. So they can spend more and ask for recovery, but when the Commission approves the plan, it's authorizing the amount in the plan; is that fair?
- 16 A. Yes.
  - Q. Okay. All right. Can you pull out the FirstEnergy's amended plan, please, the revised plan.
    - A. Are you speaking of Exhibit B?
  - Q. Yes, Exhibit B. And turn to page 5 of the amended plan. Are you there?
    - A. Yes.
  - Q. Okay. So looking just below the table, there's some figures there. And the company estimates that over the life of the plan, Ohio Edison

- will spend 131 million; Cleveland Electric,

  million; and Toledo Edison, 47 million; for a

  total of 268 million; is that correct?
  - A. You got that from the third paragraph under -- the second paragraph under the table?
    - Q. Yes.

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

- A. So, again, just making sure that the numbers are correct here, they are -- the company is stating that the total proposed costs to these programs is 268 million.
- Q. Okay. And the company estimates total discounted lifetime benefits of -- well, scrap that.

  We don't need to ask that.
- Based on your testimony on page 5, line 109.
- A. My testimony?
  - Q. Going back to your testimony, you believe utilities can meet or exceed their statutory mandate levels under the cap, correct?
    - A. Correct.
    - Q. Do you believe that the company can achieve the same savings level under the cap in the revised plan?
- A. What I don't know off the top of my head is how high over the mandated level that they are

proposing with that energy level, but I think, again, 1 2 if you use historical as an estimate of what it was, they were 21 percent under budget, which is roughly 3 \$70 million of the proposed, like roughly \$90 million 4 5 of their budget or amended budget, and they 6 overachieved by 50 percent of that. So I don't know 7 how that all falls out in the math. I didn't -- I haven't -- I don't have it memorized, so. I think 8 9 it's possible.

MR. KELTER: Could we have that question read back? I would like to see -- I would like to figure out if we got a clear answer to the question.

- A. And I might be able to clean that up some too.
  - Q. Thank you.

10

11

12

13

14

15

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

A. I was doing math in my head while I was talking.

(Record read.)

- A. So what I had said is --
- Q. Could you start with a "yes" or "no" and explain?
- A. Yes, I do think they can achieve that potentially. The -- if you look at the -- what they did historically and we have a \$90 million proposed budget, roughly, I am going to use very rough numbers

here, you take 21 percent which is the underspend of their former budgets for '12 through '14 at 21 percent, it's roughly \$70 million, so -- and then with that they also overachieved by 50 percent in the -- when they underspent under their budget by 21 percent. They also achieved by 51 percent. What I don't have off the top of my head is whether or not that overspend would be in the kilowatt energy savings, but I think it seems likely that they can achieve what they -- what they are projecting.

2.1

- Q. So they cannot only achieve -- they can achieve the projected savings under the revised plan under the 3 percent cap.
  - A. I think it's possible and likely, yes.
- Q. Okay. Page 5, line 99, you state
  "...based on the Companies 2012 to 2014 annual status
  reports demonstrating achievement related to their
  prior compliance." The companies can meet or exceed
  their statutory benchmark and comply with the
  3 percent cap, correct? Do you know how much savings
  FirstEnergy got from CFLs during that 2012 to 2014
  period?
- A. Everything I looked at was in the aggregate. I did not --
- MR. KELTER: I'm sorry, your Honor. I am

going to ask that you direct the witness to answer the specific question, do you know how much savings FirstEnergy got from CFLs during that period.

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$  JONES: Objection. He has answered that question.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Well, you can answer if you know.

- A. Again, no. Everything I looked at was in the aggregate of kilowatt savings, not individual programs.
- Q. So do you know how much savings
  FirstEnergy got from Home Energy Reports during that
  period?

MR. JONES: Objection.

1

2

3

4

5

8

9

10

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

23

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Sustained.

Q. Do you know how many kits FirstEnergy gave away during that period?

MR. JONES: Objection, same objection.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Sustained.

- Q. Has staff done any analysis of the cost of discounting CFLs in the 2012 to 2014 plan compared to the cost of discounting LEDs under the revised plan?
- MR. JONES: Objection.
- 25 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: You can answer this

one if you know.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

- A. So with Senate Bill 310 and its adjustments into what can be counted and can't be counted, we didn't look specifically into individual programs because so many new items can be counted in the new legislation, so we didn't break it out into things because we felt there was a wash.
- Q. Do you have -- do you know what percentage of the residential savings in the revised plan come from lighting programs?
  - A. I do not off the top of my head.
- Q. And do you know what percentage of savings under the revised plan come from commercial lighting?
- 15 A. Not off the top of my head.
- MR. KELTER: That's all the questions I
- 17 have.
- 18 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Anybody else?
- MR. JONES: Your Honor, could we just
- 20 have 5 minutes to talk about?
- 21 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Certainly. Why don't
- 22 | we take a break. 5 minutes.
- 23 (Recess taken.)
- 24 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Let's go back on the
- 25 record.

MR. JONES: Thank you. We just have a few questions, your Honor.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Sure.

## REDIRECT EXAMINATION

By Mr. Jones:

2.1

- Q. Mr. Donlon, will every participating customer save more money than what they paid into the rider?
  - A. Not necessarily, no.
    - Q. And why is that, Mr. Donlon?
- A. Again, if a -- I don't know why I said again. If a customer goes out and purchases one lightbulb at Home Depot or wherever and, A, doesn't actually install it, they participated, but they are actually not getting the benefits. If they do install it, they still may be paying more in the rider than they actually are receiving in reduced energy. So it depends on the level of your participation.
  - Q. Thank you.

I also want to direct your attention to the Company Exhibit 14, staff report from December 1, 2015. Do you have that in front of you?

A. I left it over there. Sorry.

I've got it.

468

1 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: I got it. 2 MR. JONES: Your Honor, may I approach? 3

EXAMINER BULRGRIN:

- And I want to refer you to that exhibit Ο. to the second-to-the-last page which is titled "Ohio Energy Bills - Industrial Customers, 8 Major Ohio Cities, As of December 1, 2015." Do you see that?
  - Α. Yes.

4

5

6

7

8

9

- Ο. Okay. And could you please read what's presented for the price per kilowatt-hour for Toledo?
- 11 Toledo --Α.
- 12 Q. I'm sorry.
- 13 Α. I'm sorry. Go ahead. Were you finished?
- 14 Ο. Yes.
- 15 Α. 10 cents.
- Okay. And could you also tell us what 16 Ο. 17 the per kilowatt-hour is for Cleveland?
- 18 11 cents. Α.
- 19 And for Akron? Ο.
- 20 Α. 10 cents.
- 2.1 Q. And compare that to Columbus.
- 22 Α. 7 cents.
- 23 So the cost then for the kilowatt-hours Q. 24 for the FirstEnergy companies are higher than AEPs?
- 25 Α. They are roughly, it would be, this is

rounded, so 3 to 4 percent -- or cents, depending on which city you are in.

- Q. Okay. And also I would like to refer your attention to Company Exhibit 13. If you would look to the third to the last page, it's titled "Summary of Switch Rates from EDUs to CRES Providers in Terms of Sales For the Month Ending December 31, 2015." Do you see that?
  - A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And if you look at the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, which is the first provider information, and if you look at industrial sales, would you please tell us what is provided there for the switch rates for industrial sales for CEI?
  - A. 88.46 percent.
- Q. Okay. And also for then the next page for Ohio Edison for industrial sales switch rates?
  - A. 89.78.
- Q. And lastly for Toledo Edison?
- 20 A. 78.8.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

2.1

22

- Q. Okay. And with a comparison then, would you look back to that first page we were just on and compare AEP's industrial sales for switch out rates?
- 24 A. 90.99.
- Q. Likewise, Mr. Donlon, let's look at

- the -- again, focusing on the industrial sales for
  the FirstEnergy companies, let's start again with
  Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, look at the
  EDU share there for industrial sales, what's it read
  for CEI?
- 6 A. 11.54 percent.
  - Q. Okay. And then on the next page for Ohio Edison, what is the EDU share there for industrial sales?
- 10 A. 10.22.

7

8

- Q. And for Toledo Edison EDU share for industrial sales?
- 13 A. 21.20.
- Q. Okay. And when you would compare that back to the first page, we are just on AEP Ohio, EDU share for industrial sales is what?
- 17 A. 9 percent -- well, 9.01.
- Q. Okay. And what is the significance of those numbers, Mr. Donlon?
- MR. GLADMAN: Objection, vague,
- 21 foundation.
- Q. How much of a difference is that between AEP and FirstEnergy?
- MR. GLADMAN: Objection. On what metric?
- 25 | O. For the industrial sales.

MR. GLADMAN: On what metric? Kilowatt?

Dollars? Customers?

Q. Looking at customers.

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

24

- A. Customers or the percentage?
- Q. The percentage, I'm sorry, yes.
- A. Difference in the percentage? You take the biggest discrepancy of Toledo and AEP, it's 20 percent roughly, a little over. Ohio Edison it's about 1.21. And Cleveland it's, we'll say, 3 percent, a little under 3 percent.
- Q. So in terms of these metrics provided in Company Exhibit 13 and 12 -- or 14, excuse me, is it fair to say that the staff took into consideration all classes in considering these metrics for its analysis for its cost cap proposal?
- A. Yes. Staff took many items into consideration and there's many moving parts, many different pieces. So looking at and highlighting one individual piece doesn't show the whole picture, so staff tried to take a holistic view.

MR. JONES: Thank you. No further questions, your Honor.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Anything further?

MR. KELTER: Yes, your Honor.

25 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Okay.

rischicigy voidine iii

472

1

## RECROSS-EXAMINATION

By Mr. Kelter:

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

- Q. Mr. Donlon, your counsel just asked you a question about customers purchasing one bulb. Do you remember that question?
  - A. That was my example but, yes.
- Q. Do you know what customers get on savings per bulb between an incandescent bulb and a CFL or LED?
- A. Not off the top of my head, I do not.
- Q. So do you know if a customer purchased 10 bulbs, if the customer would cover their costs of the rider?
- A. Assuming that they actually installed them.
- 17 Q. Installed them.
- A. I do not have that calculation off the top of my head.
- Q. Would you agree that when customers
  purchase a CFL, that it's expected to last for a
  period of years?
- A. Not to be flippant in my response, it's not what I've seen with the CFLs I've purchased.
- Q. All right. So let me ask you, when

- customers purchase -- do you know what the life expectancy of an LED bulb is?
- A. I do not know that off the top of my head.
- Q. Do you know if it's more than 10 years?

  MR. JONES: Objection. He has already
  answered he doesn't know.

EXAMINER BULRGRIN: You can answer if you know.

A. I do not have it off the top of my head.

MR. KELTER: Okay. That's all the

questions I have.

MR. GLADMAN: Just a couple to follow up,
your Honor.

15

## RECROSS-EXAMINATION

17 By Mr. Gladman:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

16

18

19

20

2.1

2.2

- Q. Mr. Donlon, you testified at the very end of your redirect by your counsel about the fact that staff considered all classes in terms of switch rates that are set forth on Company Exhibit 13; is that correct?
- A. To be more correct -- more specific, I
  think I said that we took a holistic view, not
  necessarily one individual metric --

Q. Okay.

2.1

- A. -- to that.
- Q. Okay. So fair to say that means that you took a look at not just residential sales but also commercial sales and industrial sales on this table?
- A. In a -- I don't want to imply like we used this in particular and took this and this was a major piece of it. We were aware of these types of variances, but it wasn't like we pulled this off the website and used this in our...
- Q. So I just want to understand, so maybe not this specific month end of December 31, 2015, but staff did consider the switch rates in connection with its cost cap implementation proposal?
- A. As part of many other factors, it was in the discussion, yes.
- Q. Okay. And it's fair to say you considered the switch rates for all of the different classes, as you put it, residential, commercial, and industrial?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Can you tell me what was the cumulative financial impact on the FirstEnergy companies' FERC line 10 revenues as a result of these switch rates?
  - A. We did not go into that detailed

475 1 analysis. 2 MR. GLADMAN: That's all the questions I 3 have. EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Anything further? 4 5 MR. JONES: No further questions, your 6 Honor. Thank you. 7 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Thank you, 8 Mr. Donlon. MR. GLADMAN: Your Honor, we would move 9 10 for the admission of Company Exhibits 11, 12, 13, and 14, but not 15 based upon your Honor's ruling on that 11 12 one. 13 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Okay. Any objections to I guess Staff Exhibit 1? I'm sorry. Go ahead. 14 15 MR. JONES: I'm sorry. What are we 16 addressing? What he just moved for? 17 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Well, let's do them 18 all at the same time. Staff Exhibit 1 is 19 Mr. Donlon's testimony. 20 MR. JONES: Yes. Staff moves for the 2.1 admission of Staff Exhibit 1. 2.2 And there is no objections to that so that will be admitted. 23 24 (EXHIBIT ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.) 25 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: And then we also have

```
1
     Company Exhibits 10 through 14.
 2
                 MR. GLADMAN: 11 through 14.
 3
                 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Oh, well, 10 was --
                 MR. GLADMAN: 10 was the newspaper
 4
 5
     notices I believe that Ms. Dunn moved in yesterday.
 6
                 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Okay. Yeah. Any
 7
     objections to those?
                 MR. JONES: Your Honor, I would object to
 8
 9
     Company Exhibits 11 and 12. We could just take
10
     administrative notice of these orders. Obviously
11
     these are Commission orders and prefer to have
12
     administrative notice taken of these orders instead
13
     of admitting them as exhibits into the proceeding.
14
                 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Yes. So, yes, if
15
     it's a Commission order, yes, we will take
16
     administrative notice.
17
                 (EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)
18
                 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: And I also have
     ELPC's Exhibit 1.
19
20
                 MR. KELTER: Yes, your Honor. We would
2.1
     like to move for admission into the record of ELPC
2.2
    Exhibit 1.
23
                 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Any objections?
24
                 That will be admitted as well.
25
                 (EXHIBIT ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)
```

```
477
                 EXAMINER BULRGRIN: Is that all of them?
 1
 2
                 Okay. And then the hearing will resume
     Friday at 10 o'clock?
 3
                 Very good. Thank you all.
 4
                  (Thereupon, at 11:41 a.m., the hearing
 5
 6
     was adjourned.)
 7
 8
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

FirstEnergy Volume III CERTIFICATE I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken by me in this matter on Wednesday, January 25, 2017, and carefully compared with my original stenographic notes. Karen Sue Gibson, Registered Merit Reporter. Carolyn M. Burke, Registered Professional Reporter. (KSG-6306) 

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on** 

2/1/2017 4:32:49 PM

in

Case No(s). 16-0743-EL-POR

Summary: Transcript in the matter of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and the Toledo Edison Company hearing held on 01/25/17 - Volume III electronically filed by Mr. Ken Spencer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc. and Gibson, Karen Sue Mrs.