THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE DAYTON POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY FOR AN INCREASE IN ITS ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION RATES.

CASE NO. 15-1830-EL-AIR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE DAYTON POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY FOR ACCOUNTING AUTHORITY.

CASE NO. 15-1831-EL-AAM

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE DAYTON POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF REVISED TARIFFS.

CASE NO. 15-1832-EL-ATA

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on April 19, 2017

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission selects Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. to conduct the accounting review of the Dayton Power & Light Company application for an increase in its electric distribution rates.

II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} The Dayton Power & Light Company (DP&L) is a public utility as defined under R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- {¶ 3} R.C. 4909.17, 4909.18, 4909.19, and 4909.43 enumerate the statutory requirements for an application to increase a public utility's electric base rates. The Commission adopted Ohio Adm.Code 4901-7-01 and its Appendix (Standard Filing Requirements) pursuant to R.C. 4901.13, 4909.04(C), and 4909.18. The Standard Filing Requirements specify the format for filing all information required in an application for an increase in rates and define the information which the Commission, in its discretion, requires, pursuant to R.C. 4909.18(E).

- {¶ 4} On March 22, 2017, the Commission issued an Entry directing Staff to issue a request for proposal (RFP) for the necessary audit services. Prospective bidders were directed by the Commission to submit proposals to Staff by April 5, 2017. Bidders were directed to demonstrate their understanding of the project and the work required by showing a clear understanding of the tasks to be completed, the experience and qualifications of the personnel who will perform the work, and the anticipated breakdown of costs and timing.
- {¶ 5} The proposals received in response to the RFP have been evaluated and, after consideration of those proposals, the Commission selects Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. (Blue Ridge). The Commission finds that Blue Ridge has the necessary experience to complete the required work.
- {¶ 6} The Company shall enter into a contract with Blue Ridge by May 5, 2017, for the purpose of providing payment for its auditing services. The contract shall incorporate the terms and conditions of the RFP, the auditor's proposal, and relevant Commission entries in this case.
- {¶ 7} The Commission shall select and solely direct the work of the auditor. Staff will review and approve payment invoices submitted by the auditor.
- {¶8} Blue Ridge will execute its duties pursuant to the Commission's statutory authority to investigate and acquire records, contracts, reports, and other documentation under R.C. 4903.02, 4903.03, 4905.06, 4905.15, and 4905.16. Blue Ridge is subject to the Commission's statutory duty under R.C. 4901.16, which provides:

Except in his report to the public utilities commission or when called on to testify in any court or proceeding of the public utilities commission, no employee or agent referred to in section 4905.13 of the Revised Code shall divulge any information acquired by him in respect to the transaction,

property, or business of any public utility, while acting or claiming to act as such employee or agent. Whoever violates this section shall be disqualified from acting as agent, or acting in any other capacity under the appointment or employment of the commission.

- {¶ 9} Upon request of the auditor or Staff, DP&L shall provide any and all documents or information requested. DP&L may conspicuously mark such documents or information "confidential." In no event, however, shall DP&L refuse or delay in providing such documents or information.
- {¶ 10} Once disclosure is permitted by R.C. 4901.16, the following process applies to the release of any document or information marked as confidential. Three days prior notice of intent to disclose shall be provided to the party claiming confidentiality. Three days after such notice, Staff or the auditor may disclose or otherwise make use of such documents or information for any lawful purpose, unless the Commission receives a request for a protective order pertaining to such documents or information within the three-day notice period. The three-day notice period will be computed according to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-07.
- {¶ 11} Blue Ridge shall perform its audit and investigation as an independent contractor. Any conclusions, results, or recommendations formulated by Blue Ridge may be examined by any participant to this proceeding. Further, it shall be understood that the Commission and/or its Staff shall not be liable for any acts committed by Blue Ridge or its agents in the preparation and presentation of the report.

III. ORDER

- $\{\P 12\}$ It is, therefore,
- {¶ 13} ORDERED, That Blue Ridge be selected to perform the consulting activities set forth above. It is, further.

 \P 14) ORDERED, That DP&L and Blue Ridge shall observe the requirements set forth herein. It is, further,

{¶ 15} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

Thomas W. Johnson

awrence K. Friedeman

NW/HW/vrm

Entered in the Journal

APR 1 9 2017

Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary