

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the :
Application of Ohio Power :
Company for Authority to :
Establish a Standard : Case No. 16-1852-EL-SSO
Service Offer Pursuant to :
RC 4928.143 in the Form of:
an Electric Security Plan :

In the Matter of the :
Application of Ohio Power :
Company for Approval of : Case No. 16-1853-EL-AAM
Certain Accounting :
Authority. :

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PUBLIC HEARING

before Sarah J. Parrot, Hearing Examiner, and Beth
Trombold, Commissioner, at the Bucyrus City Hall
Council Chambers, 500 South Sandusky Avenue, Bucyrus,
Ohio, called at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2017.

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1 APPEARANCES:

2 American Electric Power
3 By Matthew McKenzie
4 One Riverside Plaza
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2373

5 On behalf of American Electric Power
6 Service Corporation.

7 Bruce E. Weston, Ohio Consumers' Counsel
8 By Kevin Moore
9 10 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

10 On behalf of the Residential Consumers of
11 American Electric Power Ohio.

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1 Monday Evening Session,
2 April 10, 2017.

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4 EXAMINER PARROT: Let's get started. The
5 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has assigned for
6 public hearing at this time and place Case No.
7 16-1852-EL-SSO which is captioned In the Matter of
8 the Application of Ohio Power Company for Authority
9 to Establish a Standard Service Offer Pursuant to RC
10 4928.143 in the Form of an Electric Security Plan,
11 and in Case No. 16-1853-EL-AAM captioned In the
12 Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company for
13 Approval of Certain Accounting Authority.

14 Good evening, everyone. My name is Sarah
15 Parrot. I am an Attorney-Examiner with the
16 Commission's legal department. I will be conducting
17 the public hearing this evening. Presiding with me
18 to my left here is Commissioner Beth Trombold.

19 COMMISSIONER TROMBOLD: Good evening. I
20 got to meet a couple of you when I arrived. I just
21 wanted to say thank you for having us here today.
22 These kinds of public hearings are really important
23 for the Commission to find out what you're thinking
24 about cases that are pending before us and to be part
25 of the record and considered when we make a decision.

I'm one of five Commissioners appointed by Governor Kasich to look over these types of matters in cases that come before us. And today I will be listening intently and taking notes, and, again, this becomes part of the record. And Attorney-Examiner Parrot will be leading the hearing itself, so thank you.

EXAMINER PARROT: Also with us this evening are personnel from the Commission's Public Affairs and Service Monitoring and Enforcement Departments. Lee Gary is standing at the rear of the room there and Jill Kocher as well at the back. If you have questions about general utility matters, anything that's just general types of questions about your utility service, they can assist you, but they're not here this evening to help you with the specifics of the Company's application that we are here to discuss this evening. And I'll get into that in just a bit.

At this time, before we do that, let's get started with appearances on behalf of the parties, and we will start with Ohio Power Company.

MR. MCKENZIE: Matthew McKenzie, American Electric Power Service Corporation, 1 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio, 43215, on behalf of Ohio Power

1 Company.

2 EXAMINER PARROT: On behalf of the Ohio
3 Consumers' Counsel.

4 MR. MOORE: Thank you, your Honor,
5 Commissioner Trombold, on behalf of the Residential
6 Consumers of AEP Ohio, the Office of the Ohio
7 Consumers' Counsel Bruce A. Weston, Consumers'
8 Counsel, by Kevin Moore, 10 West Broad Street,
9 Columbus, Ohio, 43215.

10 EXAMINER PARROT: We will do our best to
11 speak up. I don't believe our microphone is on for
12 us this evening, but if you do have trouble hearing,
13 please let us know, and we'll definitely repeat
14 ourselves.

15 Any other counsel in the room
16 representing any of the parties to the case?

17 All right. I do note, however, that
18 there are a number of other parties that have
19 formally intervened in these proceedings. There are
20 intervenors representing residential customers,
21 commercial customers, industrial customers and many
22 other consumer advocates. Each of these parties
23 represents its various constituents in the case
24 before the Commission.

25 On November 23rd, 2016 Ohio Power Company

1 filed an application with the Commission to establish
2 a standard service offer in the form of an Electric
3 Security Plan or ESP to be in effect for the period
4 June 2018 through May of 2024.

5 The four local public hearings scheduled
6 in this case are just one aspect of this case
7 process. An evidentiary hearing is also scheduled to
8 commence on June 6, 2016 at the Commission offices in
9 Columbus, Ohio.

10 The purpose of this evening's public
11 hearing is to receive comments from the public
12 regarding Ohio Power Company's application in this
13 case. It is not a question and answer session, but
14 it's your opportunity to let the Commission know what
15 you think about Ohio Power Company's application.

16 Tonight's hearing as you probably noticed
17 is being transcribed by a court reporter. If you
18 plan to testify, please speak clearly so that the
19 court reporter can accurately reflect your comments
20 on the record. Also, if you have prepared a written
21 statement, it would be helpful if you would provide a
22 copy to the court reporter.

23 When you arrived, you should have been
24 offered the opportunity to sign up to testify. After
25 I finish with my introduction, I will begin calling

witnesses forward that have signed the sign-up sheet. I will ask each witness to come up to the podium and face the court reporter. Before you give your comments, I will ask you to state your name and address. Before you present your testimony, I will also ask you to take an oath or affirmation that what you're about to say is the truth.

Your testimony will then be considered part of the official record in the case, and it will be reviewed by the Commission before a final decision is made on the application.

Additionally, the parties to the case and I will be permitted to ask you questions about your statement. Should you decide that you do not wish to testify when I call your name, you can pass to the next witness. And once you have finished testifying or if you're here just to observe, please, of course, feel free to leave at any time you wish.

The Commission appreciates your participation in tonight's hearing, and we want everyone who wishes to make a public statement to have the opportunity to do so.

At this time, I'm going to begin calling witnesses forward and our first witness is Beth Eckersley. And I'm also going to apologize in

1 advance if I mispronounce names.

2 MS. ECKERSLEY: You got that one right.

3 EXAMINER PARROT: Not my strong suit.

4 Please raise your right hand. Do you swear or affirm
5 that the testimony you're about to give will be the
6 truth?

7 MS. ECKERSLEY: I do so swear.

8 EXAMINER PARROT: All right. Please
9 state your full name and address for the record.

10 MS. ECKERSLEY: Beth A. Eckersley, and
11 this is my husband, Douglas Eckersley. We reside at
12 2488 Merbrook Road, that's Columbus, Ohio, 43235.

13 EXAMINER PARROT: Okay, thank you.

14 MS. ECKERSLEY: Good evening. As I said,
15 we are Doug and Beth Eckersley. We have lived in
16 Ohio for over 20 years. We have owned property in
17 Ohio for over 20 years. We have voted in almost
18 every election since moving to Ohio over 20 years
19 ago.

20 We have also been American Electric Power
21 customers for over 20 years. This is not by choice.
22 We have not had any other option. A while back, we
23 chose IGS which is an alternative energy provider.
24 Our electric bills still came from AEP and it
25 included our energy use history and the IGS charges

1 including their per kilowatt hour rate.

2 Shortly after we switched to IGS, AEP
3 revised our budget amount raising it significantly.
4 As it was not the time of year for the annual
5 reconciliation of our budget account, we believe this
6 adjustment was due to the switch to IGS.

7 In March of last year, we received a
8 disconnect notice from AEP. They claim that our
9 monthly payments had been received several days
10 late. We were surprised that they would consider
11 disconnecting us. According to our bill, we had over
12 \$500 accrued on the balance of our budget account.
13 The disconnect notice indicated that we now owed more
14 than \$400. We could not figure out how almost a
15 thousand dollars had disappeared.

16 I called AEP and asked for an
17 explanation. No logical one was provided and two
18 customer service representatives hung up on me during
19 my pursuit for answers. The third person I spoke
20 with informed me that the budget amount was for AEP
21 charges only and did not apply to my IGS charges.

22 I expressed confusion and disbelief since
23 the budget amount had been adjusted upwards shortly
24 after I switched to IGS. She said that AEP had been
25 paying IGS on my behalf out of the goodness of their

1 heart, and I now owed them for those payments.

2 She also said that AEP would have had no
3 way of creating a budget that would include the IGS
4 charges as they could not anticipate my energy usage
5 or what IGS would charge. This, of course, was
6 ludicrous since my energy usage history and the IGS
7 rate are printed on the bill which AEP generates each
8 month. I again expressed my concern and disbelief
9 and was told that I had the option of paying up or
10 being disconnected.

11 Within minutes after finishing my
12 telephone call with AEP, I contacted YellowLite, a
13 company that installs solar panel arrays. I
14 discussed with them our options for having solar
15 arrays installed in our home and made arrangements to
16 go solar.

17 During the conversation, they asked
18 questions regarding my energy usage. So I referenced
19 my AEP bill for that information. On the bill in
20 small, gray-on-gray print, I saw the explanation the
21 AEP customer service representative had been so
22 loathe to give me. "Please note that failure to pay
23 charges for competitive retail electric services may
24 result in loss of those products and services, the
25 cancellation of your contract with the competitive

1 retail service provider and your return to AEP Ohio's
2 standard offer for energy services."

3 When a change is made to an alternative
4 energy provider, AEP does not inform their budget
5 customers that the budget amount does not cover the
6 fees for both AEP and the alternative energy
7 provider. AEP lets their budget customers who have
8 chosen a competitive retail electric service provider
9 to have a false sense of security.

10 The customers' budget amount is printed
11 on the monthly bill, the customer pays the budget
12 amount each month, their payments are accepted and
13 they are lulled into the belief that they are on a
14 budget that includes all charges.

15 Should such a customer be even a day or
16 two late with their payments, AEP then closes the
17 trap and issues a disconnect notice hoping that the
18 customer will not be able to pay the full amount,
19 will fall into arrears and they can then end the
20 contract with the alternative energy provider and
21 charge the customer whatever rate they choose.

22 If AEP had competition, they would never
23 be able to behave in such a fashion. If AEP had
24 competition, they would not be able to charge
25 residential service charges, transmission service

1 charges, distribution service charges, generation
2 charges, customer charges, retail stability rider
3 fees, phase and recovery rider fees and deferred
4 asset phase and rider fees which total more than the
5 charges for the actual energy itself, even during the
6 coldest weather months or the warmest summer seasons.

7 In today's society, having electrical
8 service to one's home is a basic necessity. AEP
9 should not be allowed to take advantage of that
10 situation by charging continuously rising fees.

11 If their industry is changing, they
12 should be required to adjust to the changing times
13 like any other company. They certainly should not be
14 allowed to abuse their customers that have no other
15 options. Thank you very much.

16 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

17 Any questions from counsel?

18 MR. MCKENZIE: No questions.

19 EXAMINER PARROT: Questions?

20 MR. MOORE: No questions, your Honor.

21 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you. All right.

22 Our next witness this evening is Sis
23 Love, I believe. Please state your name and address.

24 MS. LOVE: Garnet Love, 936 South East
25 Street, Bucyrus, Ohio.

1 EXAMINER PARROT: And raise your right
2 hand. Do you swear or affirm that the testimony you
3 are about to give will be the truth?

4 MS. LOVE: I do.

5 EXAMINER PARROT: Please proceed.

6 MS. LOVE: Yes, in looking over the
7 papers that were handed out to us this evening, I
8 noticed that the last two items when they're talking
9 about the proposed new riders, the sub metering
10 refers to a practice where utility services are
11 resold to consumers by middle men, and it goes on to
12 explain that, but there's no amount of money that
13 they're saying how much that's going to generate or
14 how much that is going to cost.

15 Likewise, with the next item that's on
16 there about the new automaker credit which will
17 subsidize increased utilization or expansion of
18 automakers facilities in AEP Ohio service territory,
19 likewise, there's nothing there that says how much
20 that's going to generate, will be generated for that
21 and how much will be spent for that because most of
22 those -- both of those seem like that's something
23 that might happen but really will it happen? That's
24 all I have.

25 EXAMINER PARROT: Any questions?

1 MR. MCKENZIE: No questions.

2 EXAMINER PARROT: Counsel, questions?

3 MR. MOORE: No questions, your Honor.

4 EXAMINER PARROT: Commissioner,
5 questions?

6 COMMISSIONER TROMBOLD: No questions.

7 EXAMINER PARROT: Miss Love? I'm sorry,
8 Miss Love, just -- I have one question for you, just
9 so the record is clear. Again, the court reporter is
10 taking everything down, you do reference a document
11 you're referring to. Could you just state for the
12 record what it is you're looking at for us?

13 MS. LOVE: It says AEP Ohio Electric
14 Security Plan.

15 EXAMINER PARROT: Who's the author of the
16 document?

17 MS. LOVE: I have no clue. It says
18 Office of Ohio Consumers' Counsel.

19 EXAMINER PARROT: Okay, thank you.
20 That's very helpful. Thank you very much.

21 Our next witness is Sharon Estrada.

22 MS. ESTRADA: Good evening, I'm Sharon --
23 Oh, I've got to take an oath.

24 EXAMINER PARROT: We'll do that first.
25 Do you swear or affirm the testimony you're about to

1 give will be the truth?

2 MS. ESTRADA: Yes.

3 EXAMINER PARROT: And you already gave us
4 your name. Your address, please.

5 MS. ESTRADA: The truth is my opinion.

6 EXAMINER PARROT: And your address?

7 MS. ESTRADA: I live at 903 Reid Street,
8 Bucyrus.

9 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you. Go ahead.

10 MS. ESTRADA: The first gal, she read off
11 some of the things. I knew I was against this
12 security thing before when they were going to have it
13 for eight years and a guaranteed profit. I did that
14 on the next, so that will be on the record somewhere.

15 Then I knew, I knew a year or two later
16 they'd be crying back to you because I figure you're
17 their sugar daddy. You oppose -- or you don't
18 oppose, you approve just about everything they ask
19 for and that makes me very angry.

20 And I can read off all the things that
21 the first gal read off about all the different riders
22 and this and that that's on my bill and even at the
23 bottom there's like three more items there which
24 probably still are around from the civil war charges,
25 I don't know, but I'm not happy with it at all.

1 This thing is not a fixed rate. It's a
2 progressive fee. And if they're going to charge
3 60 percent more this year, then two-and-a-half times
4 next year, what are they going to do 2019? 2020?
5 You know, I know they're going to come crying back to
6 you we've got to have some more money. I figured
7 that if you run a business, you should put some of
8 your profit into making your business up-to-date,
9 keep it going. Seems to me that would make sense.

10 It wasn't too long ago they had charged
11 us for something, because a lot of this goes on that
12 you never even know until somebody says something,
13 and it came to millions of dollars. And then someone
14 suggested, well, give them back their money because
15 you never finished the project you were going to do,
16 whatever.

17 Well, a court or a commission, whatever,
18 said, "Oh, you don't have to give them back their
19 money. Just take your millions and go on your way."
20 Now, what did they do with the millions? Did they
21 put them into their infrastructure to make it better
22 to get us electricity which you know the whole world
23 runs on, or did they pocket it and give it to their
24 investors? Who knows.

25 They could have done a lot of good things

1 with those millions of dollars that they had, but I
2 am angry because I know they don't invest enough into
3 their business. I didn't look up to see how much
4 their CEOs and all of this make. And I know all of
5 you are qualified because I looked you up, so you're
6 not new to anything and just thrown in there for
7 political purposes.

8 So I'm saying that I don't think AEP --
9 if they can't get along on what they've got and they
10 can't use some of their profits to make their
11 business better, update it -- Oh, and there was a
12 time they wanted us to be owners of those failed
13 plants they had up there around the lakes, too. I
14 don't know who put a pish on that, but anyhow, we
15 weren't going to get any stock, but we were going to
16 be owners, but we didn't get any stock.

17 Anyhow, all of this just is just to me
18 like a big, fat crooked deal, and it's not a fixed
19 rate. According to what I saw, I didn't even get to
20 the other side of the page yet, but what I saw was it
21 was going to go up like 8.40, that's what it is now,
22 and that's supposed to be billing and maintenance.

23 It's going to go up to 13 something this
24 year. And then 2018, it's going to go to 18
25 something. So it's a progressive fee. It is not a

1 fixed rate. If it was going to be a fixed rate, they
2 could say, okay, fixed rate now is \$18.25. Good
3 enough. But they don't. It's going to be
4 progressive. And each year or two years, it's going
5 to get more and more.

6 And while everybody is saying, "Oh, you
7 got to save electricity, you've got to save your
8 energy, buy special light bulbs, do this, do that,"
9 this thing here will only help people who use a lot
10 of electricity. If you're trying to save
11 electricity, it doesn't matter, your bill is going to
12 be the same. So what good is it? That's my opinion.
13 Thank you.

14 EXAMINER PARROT: Any questions?

15 MR. MCKENZIE: No questions.

16 MR. MOORE: No questions, your Honor.

17 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

18 Jeff Wagner.

19 MR. WAGNER: I'll pass, your Honor.

20 EXAMINER PARROT: Dan Clark. Please
21 raise your right hand. Do you swear or affirm the
22 testimony you're about to give will be the truth?

23 MR. CLARK: I do.

24 EXAMINER PARROT: Please state your name
25 and address.

1 MR. CLARK: My name is Reverend Dan
2 Clark, 633 South Cassingham Road, Bexley, Ohio,
3 43209.

4 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

5 MR. CLARK: Thank you for the opportunity
6 today to share my concern regarding AEP Ohio's
7 proposal to more than double the fixed charges
8 residents must pay on their electric bills each
9 month.

10 I represent a statewide faith
11 organization that helps over 2,000 faith leaders in
12 Ohio. As a Deputy Director, I see firsthand the
13 hardship of Ohioans. As a pastor, I've seen working
14 class people being nickeled and dimed to death. No
15 one wants to take the blame of causing hardship but
16 everyone steps up to get their nickels and dimes out
17 of these people, hard working Ohioans who live
18 month-to-month and can't afford this price hike.

19 Ohioans take seriously the moral
20 obligation to provide for and care for our families.
21 Any law that makes it harder for us to do so is an
22 unjust, anti-family law. This policy proposal fits
23 that bill. If you're an AEP Ohio customer, you'd see
24 your monthly fixed charge go up to \$18.40, more than
25 double the current rate.

Duke Energy Ohio has proposed to raise its customers' fixed charges to \$22.77 a month, almost triple the current rate. When you're a low wage family, every penny counts. I know from experience. And as a Christian, I believe it is wrong to take money out of poor people's pockets to enrich powerful special interests.

Another mark of good policy is whether it promotes good stewardship of our resources and our planet. By this measure, the proposed increase in fixed charges fails the moral test. It discourages conservation, discourages improving energy efficiency, and penalizes people who are trying to be more responsible in their energy usage. That makes us less efficient and wasteful. It's irresponsible and it's wrong.

If you think this rate increase won't have more consequences, then you are wrong. I'm not a technician or economist or a legislator or a government official. I'm a pastor. And I believe that policy that negatively impacts the environment we all share is a serious spiritual issue. As a pastor, I believe that overly burdening the poor for the benefit of those who have more than enough is a spiritual issue. Thank you.

1 EXAMINER PARROT: Any questions?

2 MR. MCKENZIE: No questions.

3 MR. MOORE: No questions, your Honor.

4 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

5 Our next witness is Larry Shutler, I
6 believe. Please raise your right hand. Do you swear
7 or affirm the testimony you're about to give will be
8 the truth?

9 MR. SHUTLER: Yes.

10 EXAMINER PARROT: Please state your name
11 and address.

12 MR. SHUTLER: Larry Shutler. Resident at
13 357 West Southern Avenue, Bucyrus, Ohio. I've been a
14 resident, my wife and I, in Bucyrus for about over 30
15 years. I'm here tonight basically to speak to two
16 points.

17 One being as a resident, I'm concerned
18 about the proposed increase this year, next year, the
19 amount, whether it is progressive or flat rate but up
20 to \$18.40. I'm concerned that the -- there's a
21 desperate effort here to cover the costs in a rapidly
22 changing landscape -- energy landscape.

23 I believe that the American Electric
24 Power should specify what they're talking about
25 instead of just saying energy landscape. I think

1 it's to be pointed out what they're specifying that
2 the increase is necessary for.

3 Secondly, I'm here also to represent the
4 Heritage Village Condo Association as a
5 representative on that board. We have over 42 units
6 in the city of Bucyrus. All of those units are
7 powered by electricity, electrical furnaces. Many of
8 those people, probably over 80 percent, are renters.

9 Those homes, those condo units in the
10 last year have seen a tremendous increase in their
11 monthly bills, plus many of them are on fixed incomes
12 and they're also single parents. One specifically in
13 which I have my unit was just rented out this past
14 November, the young lady has a minimal paying job.

15 She received her first payment utility
16 bill; she was ready to leave right away. I thought
17 we'd check the furnace out and made -- a heat sensor
18 was being replaced, but still the bill was
19 unacceptable. So that for single parents that have
20 minimum incomes, retired people who are on fixed
21 incomes, this is going to be quite a burden.

22 In our county, we have a high
23 unemployment rate. And I think the timing, along
24 with the federal government healthcare costs, I don't
25 think it's a very appropriate time to look at an

1 increase. That's my point. Thank you.

2 EXAMINER PARROT: Questions?

3 MR. McKENZIE: No questions.

4 MR. MOORE: No questions, your Honor.

5 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

6 Bill O'Rourke. Please raise your right
7 hand. Do you swear or affirm the testimony you're
8 about to give will be the truth?

9 MR. O'ROURKE: I do.

10 EXAMINER PARROT: Please state your name
11 and address.

12 MR. O'ROURKE: Bill O'Rourke, 1042 Martha
13 Avenue in Bucyrus.

14 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you.

15 MR. O'ROURKE: I basically just have one
16 question or two questions. I'm more concerned about
17 the cost of raising an average of over \$10 a month
18 per customer by the end of this term of two or three
19 years, whatever they increase it to. So you're
20 talking over \$120 a year per household. And I don't
21 know how many households there are, but there's a
22 lot.

23 And just to reiterate Mr. Shutler, we do
24 have a lot of retirees in this town. We have a lot
25 of low income people that are on fixed incomes. And

1 I did not learn of this until today, this meeting,
2 and otherwise I might have some more questions, but I
3 just look at my costs, what they were three years ago
4 a month, what they are now, and then we want to go
5 add another \$120 a year onto that. That's more or
6 less almost a fixed rate, and I just haven't received
7 any explanations what they want to do with that
8 money. Thank you.

9 EXAMINER PARROT: Any questions?

10 MR. MCKENZIE: No questions.

11 MR. MOORE: No questions, your Honor.

12 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you,
13 Mr. O'Rourke.

14 That concludes the witnesses who have
15 signed the sign-up sheet. Is there anyone else in
16 the audience that would like to testify? You know,
17 maybe now you've heard some of the comments, and
18 there's someone else who wishes to speak? Now's your
19 chance.

20 MR. FANKHAUSER: My name is Kurt
21 Fankhauser.

22 EXAMINER PARROT: Go ahead, and your
23 address.

24 MR. FANKHAUSER: 1675 South Sandusky
25 Street, Bucyrus.

1 EXAMINER PARROT: Can you spell your last
2 name for us since you're not on the roster.

3 MR. FANKHAUSER: F-A-N-K-H-A-U-S-E-R.

4 EXAMINER PARROT: Thank you. Please
5 raise your right hand. Do you swear or affirm the
6 testimony you're about to give will be the truth?

7 MR. FANKHAUSER: Yes.

8 EXAMINER PARROT: Okay. Go ahead.

9 MR. FANKHAUSER: About a year ago, I
10 found out that there was multiple tariffs. There's
11 like a residential tariff and then starting after
12 that, there's like a small commercial tariff. And
13 you -- there's certain situations where you possibly
14 can be on a different tariff that may actually save
15 you money.

16 AEP never told me this. I found that out
17 on my own, that my residential electric bill after
18 typing it in on their calculator, I would have been
19 saving money every month if I would have been under
20 the small commercial tariff.

21 And I called them, I told them, "I want
22 to switch to this other tariff." And they said,
23 "Well, we've got to -- have to come out to your house
24 and make sure that you're running commercial at your
25 house." I said, "I operate a business from my

1 house."

2 And they just didn't -- I never got them
3 switched. They kept having excuses. And, I mean, it
4 was pretty significant the one month, I would say
5 \$50, by being under this other tariff. And I have
6 many other service locations with them for other
7 services I have.

8 And it's my understanding that this is --
9 this fixed rate that they're wanting to go up is for
10 the customer charge which is your minimum bill even
11 if you don't use any electric service at all. Well,
12 are their increases -- is their fixed cost for that,
13 you know, billing, you know, is that stuff all going
14 up?

15 Because I see them doing cost savings
16 that actually would make their fixed costs go down.
17 Like the meters that they put in that you don't have
18 to have a person come by and read the numbers now, so
19 they're saving money because of them doing things
20 like that, but then they're saying, "Oh, we need it
21 more." I don't know if they've given a reason for
22 why they want to increase it.

23 But from what I've seen them doing, you
24 know, back a long time ago before computers and
25 things, autogeneration fields, there probably was a

1 higher cost to do the fixed, you know, sending out of
2 bills and things, but with everything being automated
3 now with computers, it seems like the fixed costs
4 should be going down. So I guess that's just what I
5 have to say. You know, instead of raising it, maybe
6 let's look into lowering it. That's all I have to
7 say.

8 EXAMINER PARROT: Any questions?

9 MR. MCKENZIE: No questions.

10 MR. MOORE: No questions, your Honor.

11 EXAMINER PARROT: Anyone else in the
12 audience who wishes to say something? We will stay
13 for a while after we conclude, but this is your last
14 chance to say something that's officially submitted
15 to the Commission on the record. There are other
16 opportunities to comment, and I'll mention that in
17 just a bit, but last chance to actually offer sworn
18 testimony before the Commission. Okay.

19 Well, seeing no one, I thank everyone for
20 coming this evening. This will conclude officially
21 tonight's public hearing. As I mentioned, everything
22 will be submitted as part of the record for the
23 Commission's consideration. As I just said, we will
24 stay for a while to address questions that you may
25 have about the process before the Commission or how

1 you can file written comments in the docket. And
2 with that, thank you, and we're concluded.

3 (The public hearing was concluded at 6:32
4 p.m.)

5 - - -

CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is
a true and correct transcript of the proceedings
taken by me in this matter on Monday, April 10, 2017,
and carefully compared with my original stenographic
notes.

Cynthia L. Cunningham

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in

Case No(s). 16-1852-EL-SSO, 16-1853-EL-AAM

Summary: Transcript In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company for Authority to Establish a Standard Service Offer Pursuant to RC 4928.143 in the Form of an Electric Security Plan and In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company for Approval of Certain Accounting Authority, hearing held on April 10, 2017. electronically filed by Mr. Ken Spencer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc. and Cunningham, Cindy