

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR
AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A
STANDARD SERVICE OFFER PURSUANT
TO R.C. 4928.143, IN THE FORM OF AN
ELECTRIC SECURITY PLAN.**

CASE No. 16-1852-EL-SSO

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR
APPROVAL OF CERTAIN ACCOUNTING
AUTHORITY.**

CASE No. 16-1853-EL-AAM

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 3, 2017

{¶ 1} Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio (AEP Ohio) is an electric distribution utility as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(6) and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 2} R.C. 4928.141 provides that an electric distribution utility shall provide consumers within its certified territory a standard service offer (SSO) of all competitive retail electric services necessary to maintain essential electric services to customers, including a firm supply of electric generation services. The SSO may be either a market rate offer in accordance with R.C. 4928.142 or an electric security plan (ESP) in accordance with R.C. 4928.143.

{¶ 3} In Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission modified and approved AEP Ohio's application for an ESP for the period beginning June 1, 2015, through May 31, 2018, pursuant to R.C. 4928.143. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Feb. 25, 2015), Second Entry on Rehearing (May 28, 2015), Fourth Entry on Rehearing (Nov. 3, 2016), Seventh Entry on Rehearing (Apr. 5, 2017).

{¶ 4} On November 23, 2016, in the above-captioned cases, AEP Ohio filed an application that, if approved, would modify the ESP and extend its term through May 31, 2024.

{¶ 5} By Entry dated February 7, 2017, an evidentiary hearing in these matters was scheduled to commence on June 6, 2017. Subsequently, on June 6, 2017, the evidentiary hearing was rescheduled to commence on August 8, 2017, in order to afford the parties sufficient time to fully explore the possibility of reaching a resolution of some or all of the issues raised in these proceedings.

{¶ 6} On August 2, 2017, Staff filed a motion for continuance, along with a request for expedited consideration. Staff requests that the evidentiary hearing be rescheduled to commence on a date to be determined in the future. Staff also requests that a status conference be held on August 16, 2017, in order to facilitate the establishment of a revised procedural schedule. In support of its motion, Staff states that some of the parties have reached a settlement in principle and that negotiations remain ongoing to determine whether additional parties will join in the agreement. Staff further states that, although the stipulation is expected to be filed in the near future, a continuance is necessary to complete the drafting process. With respect to its request for an expedited ruling, Staff notes that it contacted all parties regarding the motion and that all responding parties granted their consent to the requested continuance.

{¶ 7} The attorney examiner finds that Staff's motion for continuance is reasonable and should be granted. Accordingly, the evidentiary hearing should be continued to a date to be determined in the future. Further, a status conference will be held on August 16, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-A, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That Staff's motion for a continuance of the evidentiary hearing be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That a status conference be held on August 16, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-A, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/Sarah Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/sc

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in

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

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting Staff's motion for a continuance of the evidentiary hearing and scheduling a status conference on 08/16/2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-A, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio. - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Sarah Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio