## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OHIO EDISON COMPANY, THE CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING COMPANY, AND THE TOLEDO EDISON COMPANY TO INCLUDE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION PROJECTS IN THEIR ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND PEAK-DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAM PORTFOLIO.

CASE NOS. 14-862-EL-EEC 14-863-EL-EEC 14-864-EL-EEC

#### FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on August 9, 2017

# I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} In this Finding and Order, the Commission approves the application of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company for approval to include certain transmission and distribution projects toward the companies' 2013 energy efficiency and peak demand reduction benchmarks.

## II. DISCUSSION

- {¶ 2} R.C. 4928.66 imposes certain annual energy efficiency and peak demand reduction (EEDR) requirements upon Ohio's electric distribution utilities, beginning in calendar year 2009. R.C. 4928.66(A)(2)(d) provides that programs implemented by a utility to meet the statutory reduction requirements may include transmission and distribution infrastructure improvements that reduce line losses. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-39-04 directs each electric utility to file, for Commission approval, a portfolio plan of EEDR programs to achieve the statutory reductions in peak-demand improvements in energy efficiency.
- {¶ 3} Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company (collectively, the Companies) are public utilities as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such are subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

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{¶ 4} On May 15, 2014, the Companies submitted an application for Commission approval to include the efficiency gains resulting from certain transmission and distribution projects completed during 2013, in partial compliance with EEDR benchmarks required by R.C. 4928.66. The energy savings claimed for the projects, as described in the Companies' filing, shows a total annual contribution to energy efficiency requirements in 2013 of 44,947 MWh, allocated as follows: 22,828 MWh for Ohio Edison Company, 16,108 MWh for The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and 6,011 MWh for The Toledo Edison Company.

- {¶ 5} On June 6, 2014, Staff filed its recommendation that the application be approved. Staff agrees with the Companies that the projects enhanced the transmission and distribution system reliability in specific service areas of the Companies. Staff also notes that replacing old facilities with new facilities resulted in reduced system losses. In addition, Staff reviewed all necessary engineering studies and confirmed that the energy savings claimed by the Companies in their application were properly determined. Staff concludes that for distribution and transmission projects, the impact of these projects will result in reduced energy losses caused by anticipated future load growth and will result in these energy efficiency gains being sustained over time.
- [¶ 6] On June 9, 2014, a motion to intervene and memorandum in support was filed by the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Council (OCC). OCC appears to have a direct, real, and substantial interest in the issues and matters involved in this proceeding, the disposition of which may impair or impede its ability to protect such interests that may not be adequately represented by other parties. Further, it appears that the participation of OCC will not unduly prolong or delay this proceeding, and may significantly contribute to the development and equitable resolution of the issues raised. Accordingly, OCC's motion to intervene should be granted.
- {¶ 7} Based upon its review, Staff believes that the transmission and distribution projects under consideration in this application meet the requirements for integration in the Companies' energy efficiency compliance plans.

- {¶ 8} No party has objected to Staff's recommendation.
- {¶ 9} Upon review of the application and Staff's recommendations, the Commission finds that the application should be granted, and the Companies should amend their energy efficiency and peak demand reduction program portfolio plan for 2013 to include the additional program.

# III. ORDER

- $\{\P 10\}$  It is, therefore,
- {¶ 11} ORDERED, That the application be approved. It is, further,
- {¶ 12} ORDERED, That OCC's motion to intervene be granted. It is, further,
- {¶ 13} ORDERED, That this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Haque, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

Thomas (W. Johnson

Lawrence K. Friedeman

JML/sc

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Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary