

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR AN
INCREASE IN ITS ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION
RATES.

CASE No. 17-32-EL-AIR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR TARIFF
APPROVAL.

CASE No. 17-33-EL-ATA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR APPROVAL
TO CHANGE ACCOUNTING METHODS.

CASE No. 17-34-EL-AAM

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on October 16, 2017

{¶ 1} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is an electric light company and public utility as defined by R.C. 4905.03(C) and R.C. 4905.02, respectively. As such, Duke is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction pursuant to R.C. 4905.04, 4905.05, and 4905.06.

{¶ 2} On March 2, 2017, Duke filed applications for an increase in electric distribution rates, for approval of tariff modifications, and for approval of changes in certain accounting methods.

{¶ 3} Staff conducted an investigation and filed its report on September 26, 2017. A supplement to the report was filed on October 12, 2017.

{¶ 4} By Entry issued September 28, 2017, the attorney examiner issued a procedural schedule. The attorney examiner also indicated that local public hearings would be scheduled by subsequent entry.

{¶ 5} R.C. 4903.083 requires that the Commission hold at least one public hearing session within Duke's service territory, and that at least one session of the local public hearing be scheduled after 5:00 p.m. Accordingly, local public hearings have been scheduled at the following times and locations:

- (a) Monday, October 30, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., at the Butler Technology and Career Development Schools, 3603 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.
- (b) Thursday, November 2, 2017, at 12:30 p.m., at Cincinnati City Hall, Council Chambers, 801 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

{¶ 6} Duke should publish legal notice of the local hearings in a newspaper of general circulation in all of the affected service territory once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the scheduled date of the local hearing. The hearing notice should not appear in the legal notices section of the newspaper. The notice should read as follows:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has scheduled local hearings in Case Nos. 17-32-EL-AIR, 17-33-EL-ATA, and 17-34-EL-AAM, *In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its Electric Distribution Rates, for Tariff Approval, and for Approval to Change Accounting Methods*. The local hearings are scheduled for the purpose of providing an opportunity for interested members of the public to testify in these proceedings. The local hearings will be held as follows:

- (a) Monday, October 30, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., at the Butler Technology and Career Development Schools, 3603 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.
- (b) Thursday, November 2, 2017, at 12:30 p.m., at Cincinnati City Hall, Council Chambers, 801 Plum Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

An evidentiary hearing in this proceeding will commence on December 11, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11A, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Duke seeks a rate increase that would generate approximately \$15,400,000 of additional revenue, or an increase of 3 percent over current revenue. After its review of Duke's records and application, the Staff of the Commission recommended a revenue decrease in the range of \$18,357,786 to \$28,932,684, or a decrease of -3.77 percent to -5.94 percent over current revenue. The major issues raised in this case are:

- (a) Revenue requirements as impacted by rate base, operating income, and rate of return;
- (b) Incorporation of the SmartGrid revenue requirement into base rates;
- (c) Proposals regarding distribution grid modernization;
- (d) Continuation of the capital investment rider; and
- (e) Establishment of a straight fixed variable rate design.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793, viewing the Commission's web page at <http://www.puco.ohio.gov>, or contacting the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826.

{¶ 7} It is, therefore,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That local public hearings be held as set forth in Paragraph 5. It is, further,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That Duke publish notice of the hearings as set forth in Paragraph 6. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/Stacie Cathcart

By: Stacie E. Cathcart
Attorney Examiner

SJP/sc

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 17-0032-EL-AIR, 17-0033-EL-ATA, 17-0034-EL-AAM

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry scheduling local public hearings in accordance with Paragraph 5 and directing Duke to publish the notice of hearings in accordance with Paragraph 6. - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Stacie Cathcart, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio