

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR
APPROVAL OF PROPOSED RELIABILITY
STANDARDS.

CASE NO. 16-1602-EL-ESS

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on March 5, 2018

{¶ 1} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is an electric distribution utility (EDU) and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(6) and R.C. 4905.02, respectively. As such, Duke is subject to this Commission's jurisdiction.

{¶ 2} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-10(B)(2) requires each electric utility in Ohio to file with the Commission an application to establish company-specific reliability standards. The rule requires that the application include: a proposed methodology for establishing reliability standards; a proposed company-specific reliability performance standard for each service reliability index based on the proposed methodology; and supporting justification for the proposed methodology and each resulting performance standard.

{¶ 3} On July 22, 2016, Duke filed an application to establish new reliability standards pursuant to the requirements of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-10. Consequently, and also consistent with Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-10, the attorney examiner set forth a procedural schedule establishing a technical conference on February 2, 2017, and setting a comment period. Thereafter, the technical conference was held, as scheduled, on February 2, 2017. Additionally, Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) filed comments on February 22, 2017, Staff filed a review and recommendation on March 6, 2017, and OCC and Duke each filed reply comments on March 24, 2017. Lastly, by Entry issued August 3, 2017, the attorney examiner scheduled a hearing date of September 26, 2017.

{¶ 4} On September 18, 2017, the attorney examiner granted Duke's September 8, 2017 motion for a continuance and extended the hearing date to December 7, 2017. The attorney examiner found that 2016 reliability standards should remain in effect until such

time as the Commission orders otherwise. Since that time, the procedural schedule has been extended multiple times. On January 5, 2018, the attorney examiner granted Staff's motion to extend the procedural schedule and extended the hearing date to March 13, 2018.

{¶ 5} On February 28, 2018, Staff filed a motion requesting a suspension of the procedural schedule. Staff maintains that the parties continue to meet and that settlement discussions are ongoing, but the parties would benefit from additional time. According to Staff, the parties commit to file a settlement in the docket or file a notice indicating that settlement efforts have concluded. Staff asserts the motion is unopposed.

{¶ 6} The attorney examiner finds good cause exists to grant Staff's motion. If a resolution has not been reached by March 23, 2018, the parties are directed to file a status update informing the Commission on the progress of settlement discussions. Accordingly, the procedural schedule should be suspended.

{¶ 7} It is, therefore,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That Staff's motion for a suspension of the procedural schedule be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 9} 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 Cathcart
Attorney Examiner

/vrm

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Case No(s). 16-1602-EL-ESS

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting Staff's motion for suspension of the procedural schedule; electronically filed by Vesta R Miller on behalf of Stacie Cathcart, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio