

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR A  
LIMITED WAIVER OF OHIO ADM.CODE  
4901:1-18-06(A)(2).

CASE NO. 13-1938-EL-WVR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR A  
LIMITED WAIVER OF OHIO ADM.CODE  
4901:1-18-06(A)(2).

CASE NO. 17-1380-EL-WVR

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR A  
LIMITED WAIVER OF OHIO ADM.CODE  
4901:1-18-06(A)(2).

CASE NO. 17-1381-EL-WVR

### ENTRY ON REHEARING

Entered in the Journal on June 6, 2018

#### I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission grants the application for rehearing of the Commission's April 11, 2018 Finding and Order filed by Ohio Consumers' Counsel for the purpose of further consideration of the matters specified in the application for rehearing.

#### II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio (AEP Ohio or the Company) 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.

{¶ 3} 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.

{¶ 4} In Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission modified and approved AEP Ohio's application for a first ESP, including the Company's proposal to establish a gridSMART rider and initiate Phase 1 of its gridSMART program, which would focus on advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), distribution automation, and home area network initiatives. *In re Columbus Southern Power Co.*, Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Mar. 18, 2009) at 37-38, Entry on Rehearing (July 23, 2009) at 18-24.

{¶ 5} On August 8, 2012, the Commission approved, with certain modifications, AEP Ohio's application for a second ESP. Among the provisions adopted as part of the ESP, the Commission approved AEP Ohio's request to continue the gridSMART Phase 1 project and the associated rider. *In re Columbus Southern Power Co. and Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Aug. 8, 2012) at 62-63, Entry on Rehearing (Jan. 30, 2013) at 53.

{¶ 6} The Commission also granted AEP Ohio's request, in its third ESP, to initiate gridSMART Phase 2, including the installation of certain gridSMART technologies with demonstrated success and cost-effectiveness. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Feb. 25, 2015) at 50-52.

{¶ 7} With regard to residential service, Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-18-06(A)(2) requires the utility company to provide the customer or an adult consumer with personal notice on the day service is to be disconnected or attach written notice of the disconnection to the premises in a conspicuous location.

{¶ 8} By Entry issued March 18, 2015, in Case No. 13-1938-EL-WVR (*Waiver Case*), the Commission approved, with certain modifications, AEP Ohio's requests for a

temporary waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-18-06(A)(2) to initiate a two-year, remote disconnect pilot program within the gridSMART Phase 1 project area to end August 1, 2017, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. The pilot area includes AEP Ohio's gridSMART Phase 1 area and the surrounding vicinity which serves approximately 132,000 residential customers in the northeastern Franklin County area. In the March 18, 2015 Entry, the Commission directed AEP Ohio to file a request, by June 1, 2017, if the Company wished to continue or expand the remote disconnect pilot. The Entry specifically recognized that, at the conclusion of the temporary pilot period, should AEP Ohio file an application to continue or expand the pilot, AEP Ohio, Staff, and the other parties to the *Waiver Case* would be afforded the opportunity to evaluate the pilot. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 13-1938-EL-WVR, Entry (Mar. 18, 2015), Second Entry on Rehearing (Sept. 9, 2015).

{¶ 9} On June 1, 2017, in Case No. 17-1380-EL-WVR (*Waiver Extension Case*), AEP Ohio filed a motion for a permanent waiver or indefinite extension of the waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-18-06(A)(2), consistent with the notice process and requirements approved in the *Waiver Case* for the remote disconnect pilot. *Waiver Case*, Entry (Mar. 18, 2015), Second Entry on Rehearing (Sept. 9, 2015).

{¶ 10} On June 1, 2017, AEP Ohio also filed, in Case No. 17-1381-EL-WVR (*Waiver Expansion Case*), a motion to expand the waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-18-06(A)(2) to apply to 894,000 customers with AMI, also known as smart meters, to be installed within the gridSMART Phase 2 service area over the next four years. As part of the *Waiver Expansion Case*, AEP Ohio requested authority to expand the remote disconnect pilot pursuant to the notice process approved in the *Waiver Case*, with certain modifications.

{¶ 11} By Entry issued July 12, 2017, Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) and Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy were granted intervention in the *Waiver Extension Case* and the *Waiver Expansion Case*.

{¶ 12} By Finding and Order issued April 11, 2018, the Commission approved, subject to certain revisions, AEP Ohio's applications to indefinitely continue, within the Phase 1 gridSMART area, the waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-18-06, requiring personal notice to residential customers on the day of disconnection, and to expand the waiver to the Company's Phase 2 gridSMART area subject to the modifications set forth in and consistent with the Finding and Order.

{¶ 13} R.C. 4903.10 states that any party to a Commission proceeding may apply for rehearing with respect to any matters determined by the Commission within 30 days of the entry of the order upon the Commission's journal.

{¶ 14} On May 11, 2018, OCC filed an application for rehearing in these proceedings, asserting the Finding and Order is unjust, unreasonable and unlawful in three respects. On May 21, 2018, AEP Ohio filed a memorandum contra the application for rehearing.

{¶ 15} The Commission believes that sufficient reason has been set forth by OCC to warrant further consideration of the matters specified in the application for rehearing. Accordingly, the application for rehearing filed by OCC should be granted.

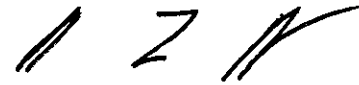
### III. ORDER

{¶ 16} It is, therefore,

{¶ 17} ORDERED, That OCC's application for rehearing be granted for further consideration of the matters specified therein. It is, further,

{¶ 18} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry on Rehearing be served upon all interested persons of record in these matters.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



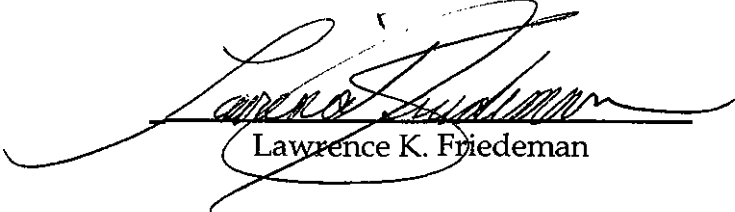
Asim Z. Haque, Chairman



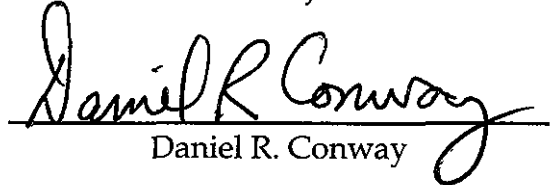
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