

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2016 REVIEW OF
THE DISTRIBUTION INVESTMENT RIDER
CONTAINED IN THE TARIFF OF OHIO
POWER COMPANY.

CASE NO. 17-38-EL-RDR

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2017 REVIEW OF
THE DISTRIBUTION INVESTMENT RIDER
CONTAINED IN THE TARIFF OF OHIO
POWER COMPANY.

CASE NO. 18-230-EL-RDR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 30, 2018

{¶ 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. 11-346-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission modified and approved, pursuant to R.C. 4928.143, AEP Ohio's application for an ESP, to be effective with the first billing cycle of September 2012 through May 31, 2015. *In re Columbus Southern Power Co. and Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Aug. 8, 2012). Among other provisions of the ESP, the Commission modified and approved AEP Ohio's proposed distribution investment rider (DIR) to allow for the recovery of capital costs for distribution infrastructure investments in order to facilitate improved service reliability.

The Commission also required that the DIR be reviewed annually for accounting accuracy and prudence.

{¶ 4} In Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission modified and approved an ESP for AEP Ohio, including modification and approval of continuation of the DIR, for the period of June 1, 2015, through May 31, 2018. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Feb. 25, 2015) at 45-47, Second Entry on Rehearing (May 28, 2015) at 23-25, Fourth Entry on Rehearing (Nov. 3, 2016) at 50-51, Seventh Entry on Rehearing (Apr. 5, 2017) at 14.

{¶ 5} On March 22, 2017, in Case No. 17-38-EL-RDR, the Commission selected Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. (Blue Ridge) to perform the annual audit of AEP Ohio's DIR for 2016. Blue Ridge filed its compliance audit report for 2016 on August 10, 2017.

{¶ 6} On March 28, 2018, in Case No. 18-230-EL-RDR, the Commission selected Blue Ridge to perform the annual audit of AEP Ohio's DIR for 2017. Blue Ridge filed its compliance audit report for 2017 on August 23, 2018.

{¶ 7} In order to assist the Commission in its review of AEP Ohio's DIR for 2016 and 2017, the attorney examiner finds that the following procedural schedule should be established:

- (a) October 19, 2018 – Deadline for the filing of motions to intervene.
- (b) October 26, 2018 – Deadline for the filing of initial comments in response to Blue Ridge's compliance audit reports for 2016 and 2017.
- (c) November 16, 2018 – Deadline for the filing of reply comments.

{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That the procedural schedule set forth in Paragraph 7 be adopted. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record and other interested persons of record in these cases and all parties of record in Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

s/Sarah Parrot

By: Sarah J. Parrot
Attorney Examiner

NJW/sc

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Case No(s). 17-0038-EL-RDR, 18-0230-EL-RDR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry setting forth a procedural schedule in accordance with Paragraph 7 - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Sarah Parrot, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio