

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC.'S
DISTRIBUTION CAPITAL INVESTMENT
RIDER.

CASE NO. 18-1036-EL-RDR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on January 11, 2019

{¶ 1} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke or the Company) is an electric distribution utility (EDU) as defined by 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 EDU 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} On April 2, 2015, the Commission modified and approved an application for an ESP filed by Duke for the period June 1, 2015, through May 31, 2018. *In re Duke Energy Ohio*, Case No. 14-841-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (April 2, 2015) (*ESP 3 Case*). In the Opinion and Order, the Commission established a distribution capital investment rider (Rider DCI) to allow for the recovery of capital costs for distribution infrastructure investments. Further, the Commission found that a compliance audit of Rider DCI is to be completed annually to ensure conformance with the Opinion and Order.

{¶ 4} On May 30, 2018, in the *ESP 3 Case*, the Commission granted Duke's initial request to extend the 2018 \$35 million revenue cap collection period for Rider DCI until August 1, 2018. Thereafter, on July 25, 2018, in a Second Entry on Rehearing, the

Commission granted Duke's application for rehearing and permitted the Company to recover up to \$5 million per month under Rider DCI until another ESP was approved.

{¶ 5} On June 28, 2018, the Commission issued an Entry directing Staff to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to acquire audit services to assist the Commission with the review of Duke's Rider DCI. Bidders were directed to demonstrate their understanding of the project and the work required by showing a clear understanding of the tasks to be completed, the experience and qualifications of the personnel who will perform the work, and the anticipated breakdown of costs and timing. All proposals were submitted on July 18, 2018, in accordance with the terms of the RFP.

{¶ 6} On August 1, 2018, the Commission issued an Entry selecting Rehmann Consulting (Rehmann) to perform the consulting activities for Duke's Rider DCI and directed Duke to enter into a contract with Rehmann for the purpose of providing payment for its auditing services. Thereafter, on December 7, 2018, Rehmann submitted its audit report.

{¶ 7} On December 7, 2018, the Ohio Consumers Counsel (OCC) filed a motion to intervene and memorandum in support. No memoranda contra the motion to intervene was filed. The Commission finds that the motion to intervene filed by OCC complies with the requirements set forth in R.C. 4903.221 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-11, and should, therefore, be granted.

{¶ 8} The attorney examiner now finds it appropriate to invite interested stakeholders to file comments. The procedural schedule shall be as follows:

- (a) Motions to intervene shall be filed by February 12, 2019
- (b) Comments shall be filed by February 26, 2019
- (c) Reply comments shall be filed by March 12, 2019

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That the procedural schedule set forth in Paragraph 8 be adopted. It is, further,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That OCC's motion to intervene be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 12} 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

JRJ/sc

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in

Case No(s). 18-1036-EL-RDR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry setting procedural schedule indicated in Paragraph 8 and granting OCC's motion to intervene - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Stacie Cathcart, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio