

**BEFORE**

**THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Duke )  
Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Adjustment to ) Case No. 19-174-GA-RDR  
Rider MGP Rates. )

In the Matter of the Application of Duke )  
Energy Ohio, Inc., for Tariff Approval. ) Case No. 19-175-GA-ATA

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF**

**TODD L. BACHAND**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC.**

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March 29, 2019

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### ATTACHMENT:

TLB-1: Map of East End site

## **I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE**

1   **Q.   PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

2   A.   My name is Todd L. Bachand, and my business address is 139 East Fourth Street,  
3       Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

4   **Q.   BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?**

5   A.   I am employed by Duke Energy Business Services LLC (DEBS) as a Lead  
6       Environmental Specialist for the Remediation Group, which is part of  
7       Environmental Services at Duke Energy Corporation (Duke Energy). DEBS  
8       provides various administrative and other services to Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.,  
9       (Duke Energy Ohio or Company) and other affiliated companies of Duke Energy.

10  **Q.   PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND**  
11  **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.**

12  A.   I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Sciences from Springfield  
13       College, located in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1985. From 1985 to 1992, as an  
14       Environmental Scientist with Baystate Environmental Consultants, Inc. (East  
15       Longmeadow, MA), I was responsible for conducting site assessments, performing  
16       feasibility studies, and managing construction, dredging and remediation projects.  
17       From 1992 to 1996, as the manager of Technical Services for Nuclear Energy  
18       Services, Inc. (Danbury, CT), I was responsible for overseeing and managing a wide  
19       variety of site assessments and remediation projects. I was responsible for managing  
20       a team of environmental scientists and geologists primarily working on sites  
21       throughout the East Coast focusing on petroleum-impacted properties. From 1996 to  
22       1998, as the Mid-West Operations Manager for Nuclear Energy Services, Inc.,

1 Integrated Environmental Services Division (Blue Ash, OH), I was responsible for  
2 managing a team of environmental scientists, geologists, and engineers. I was  
3 responsible for managing projects that dealt with environmental assessments, real  
4 estate due diligence (Phase I Environmental Site Assessments), risk assessments,  
5 underground storage tank remedial actions, and remedial actions relating to  
6 chlorinated solvents, mercury, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

7 From 1998 to 2009, as the Vice President of NEES, LLC (West Chester, OH),  
8 I managed a team of environmental professionals and I was responsible for projects  
9 focusing on site assessments, property transactions, remediation projects, U.S. Army  
10 Corps of Engineers permitting and compliance, and cultural resources assessments.  
11 Projects that I personally managed focused on-site assessments (Phase I, Phase II, and  
12 Phase III), remediation, risk analysis, environmental permitting, environmental  
13 auditing, and environmental compliance.

14 From 2009 to 2013, as the Director of Environment, FirstGroup America  
15 (Cincinnati, OH), I had all environmental responsibility for the company, which  
16 included the operating companies of Greyhound Bus, Greyhound Canada,  
17 Americanos, First Student, First Canada, First Transit, and First Vehicle Services.  
18 The occupational footprint included Mexico, Puerto Rico, the United States and  
19 Canada. My responsibilities focused on ensuring compliance with all  
20 environmental regulatory programs from city, county, state, and federal agencies in  
21 the United States and city, provincial, and the Ministry of Environment in Canada.  
22 Compliance included over 3,000 storage tanks and issuance of annual permits for  
23 each location (1,500+ locations). Additional responsibilities focused on real estate

1 holdings throughout North America and the environmental due diligence aspect of  
2 acquisitions and dispositions for both leased and owned properties. I was also  
3 responsible for managing multiple Comprehensive Environmental Response,  
4 Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) sites where the company had  
5 liabilities, as well as managing multiple environmental remediation projects,  
6 focusing on petroleum, chlorinated solvents and PCB impacts to both soils and  
7 groundwater. In addition, I was responsible for ensuring that all operating permits  
8 were up-to-date and that all federal, state and local Emergency Planning and  
9 Community Right-to-Know Act Tier II reports were filed as required.

10 From June 2014 to the present, I have been a Lead Environmental Specialist  
11 with Duke Energy in the Remediation Group. I am responsible for managing  
12 remediation projects within the states of Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. I have  
13 extensive experience in site assessments and remediation that I employ while  
14 managing the various projects in these states. Currently, I am managing the site  
15 assessment and remediation of contaminants from two former manufactured gas  
16 plant (MGP) sites in Cincinnati, Ohio (the East End and West End sites) for Duke  
17 Energy Ohio. I also represent Duke Energy on the Indiana Energy Association –  
18 MGP Remediation Work Group and I am a member of the MGP Consortium, which  
19 is a group comprised of 28 utilities where lessons learned and best practices are  
20 shared among utility project managers on the investigation and cleanup of former  
21 MGP sites.

1    **Q.    PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS A LEAD**  
2       **ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST WITHIN THE REMEDIATION**  
3       **GROUP.**

4    **A.**    As the Lead Environmental Specialist in the Remediation Group, I provide project  
5       management and technical oversight for Duke Energy's environmental liabilities at  
6       power plants and other properties that any Duke Energy entity or predecessor  
7       company either owned, operated and/or sent material to and that is now subject to  
8       remediation obligations.

9           My job responsibilities, which are similar to the responsibilities of other  
10       project managers in the Remediation Group, include interaction and coordination  
11       with many different groups within and outside of Duke Energy, including: senior  
12       leadership; legal; finance; business units such as gas operations and transmission,  
13       power delivery, and generation; ratepayers and community groups; local, state, and  
14       federal governmental or regulatory officials; and consultants, contractors, and  
15       site/construction workers. We prepare bid documents that detail Duke Energy's  
16       requirements and expectations for remedial work and we provide the technical  
17       evaluation of the proposals received. During the execution of site work, we actively  
18       review, comment on, and approve all plans, scope or design changes, and final  
19       documents prepared by environmental consultants. We regularly visit sites during  
20       active investigation and remediation activities in order to oversee work and ensure  
21       that Duke Energy's expectations are being met.

1    **Q.    HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE PUBLIC**  
2       **UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO?**

3    A.    I have not provided oral testimony before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
4       (Commission). However, I have submitted written testimony in Case Nos. 14-0375-  
5       GA-RDR, *et al.*; Case Nos. 15-0452-GA-RDR, *et al.*; Case Nos. 16-0542-GA-  
6       RDR, *et al.*; Case Nos. 17-0596-GA-RDR, *et al.*; and Case Nos. 18-283-GA-RDR,  
7       *et al.*

8    **Q.    WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY IN THESE**  
9       **PROCEEDINGS?**

10   A.    I am the project manager for the MGP investigation and remediation projects at and  
11       around the East End and West End sites in Duke Energy Ohio's service territory.  
12       The purpose of my testimony is to describe the environmental remediation activities  
13       that occurred at the East End and West End site locations in Cincinnati, Ohio, in  
14       calendar year 2018. In so doing, my testimony will support the recovery of such  
15       expenditures that are included in Duke Energy Ohio's requested update to Rider  
16       MGP, as authorized by the Commission.

17   **Q.    PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT YOU MEAN BY THE TERM MGP SITES.**

18   A.    For background, Duke Energy Ohio owns and utilizes for utility operations two  
19       facilities in Hamilton County Ohio, near downtown Cincinnati, that previously  
20       were utilized for MGP operations. These two locations are known as the East End  
21       site and the West End site. The East End site was subdivided into different areas  
22       for prioritization of remediation under the VAP, referred to as "parcels." The  
23       presence of the aforementioned legacy MGP operations in these locations has

1       necessitated environmental remediation stemming from those operations long ago.  
2       The term MGP sites thus refers to the East End site and the West End site where  
3       MGP equipment and operations were formerly conducted that resulted in by-  
4       products and waste materials causing contamination at and around the facilities that  
5       now must be remediated under applicable environmental laws. As the Company  
6       explained in its 2012 natural gas rate case, these by-products and other waste  
7       materials include tar-like material (TLM) and oil-like material (OLM) that contains  
8       a number of chemicals including benzene and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, which  
9       are mobile and can dissolve into the groundwater at concentrations above  
10      applicable standards.<sup>1</sup> These contaminants are not stable, but rather are mobile and  
11      migrate through soils and groundwater over time.<sup>2</sup> At both Duke Energy Ohio MGP  
12      sites, a major surface water body (Ohio River) is located adjacent to the sites and  
13      the mobile free product could migrate into the surface water body.<sup>3</sup> Investigation  
14      and remediation of these materials is required to meet applicable standards under  
15      the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) Voluntary Action Program  
16      (VAP) Therefore, the term MGP sites refers to the areas where MGP contaminants  
17      are present and must be remediated under CERCLA and in accordance with the  
18      Ohio VAP in order to address Duke Energy Ohio's liability for those conditions.

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<sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its Natural Gas Distribution Rates*, Case No.12-1865-GA-AIR, *et al.*, Direct Testimony of Shawn S. Fiore at 18 (April 22, 2013).

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> Id.



1    **Q.    DID DUKE ENERGY OHIO CONDUCT REMEDIATION ACTIVITIES IN**  
2       **2018 AT THE TWO FORMER MGP SITES IDENTIFIED IN ITS**  
3       **NATURAL GAS RATE CASE, CASE NOS. 12-1685, *ET AL.* (NATURAL**  
4       **GAS RATE CASE)?**

5    A.    Yes, the Company conducted remediation activities in 2018 at the two former MGP  
6       sites that were identified in the Natural Gas Rate Case and related testimony.  
7       Remediation activities are ongoing at these sites, as described later in my testimony.

8    **Q.    PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CORPORATE STRUCTURE AND**  
9       **MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT OF THESE TWO SITES.**

10   A.    The remediation projects at these two sites are managed by Duke Energy  
11       Environmental Services as part of the Environmental Health and Safety Department  
12       in Regulated Utilities. Environmental Services is headed by a Vice President who  
13       oversees Directors who are appointed to manage various disciplines/media  
14       programs. Within the Remediation Group, I review project scopes and activities  
15       with each consultant's individual project manager on a minimum bi-weekly basis,  
16       which I then review with my management on a minimum bi-weekly basis.  
17       Information on the status and activities on the East End and West End sites is  
18       periodically reviewed with higher levels of management and the financial  
19       department. Known and anticipated activities, including cost estimates, are  
20       reviewed with levels of senior management at least semi-annually and whenever  
21       significant decisions are required on strategy or anticipated costs. Each level of  
22       management has limited authority to approve activities and authorize the  
23       expenditure of funds. For new purchase orders, approval also must be obtained

1 from Duke Energy's sourcing department. Over the course of the year, I meet with  
2 a number of members of Duke Energy management to discuss the status of the  
3 projects, seek input on certain decisions, and obtain approval of spending requests,  
4 as necessary.

## **II. BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF MGP SITES**

5 **Q. THE RECORD IN THE NATURAL GAS RATE CASE DETAILS THE**  
6 **HISTORY OF MANUFACTURED GAS, AS WELL AS THE TYPICAL**  
7 **INVESTIGATION AND REMEDIATION OF FORMER MGP SITES. IS**  
8 **THERE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO SUPPLEMENT THAT PRIOR**  
9 **DETAIL?**

10 **A. No. Information on the background of manufactured gas and its history in**  
11 **southwest Ohio is described at length in the Company's Application, supporting**  
12 **testimony, and the Commission's Opinion and Order in the Natural Gas Rate Case**  
13 **(Commission's Order).<sup>4</sup> Likewise, the Commission's Order provides details of**  
14 **typical investigation and remediation activities and a description of the impact of**  
15 **Ohio laws and regulations and the Ohio EPA clean-up programs on the**  
16 **management of the environmental conditions at Duke Energy Ohio's MGP sites,**  
17 **especially the VAP. This previous testimony remains accurate today and, as such,**  
18 **I will instead focus my testimony on activities occurring during the period relevant**  
19 **to these proceedings calendar year 2018.**

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<sup>4</sup> See e.g., *In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc., for an Increase in its Natural Gas Distribution Rates*, Case No.12-1865-GA-AIR, *et al.*, Supplemental Direct Testimony of Jessica Bednarcik, (February 23, 2013); *Id.*, Direct Testimony of Shawn S. Fiore (April 22, 2013); and *Id.* Opinion and Order (November 13, 2013).

1    **Q.     PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ONGOING WORK AT THE EAST END AND**  
2    **WEST END SITES.**

3           The environmental work at the East End and West End sites continues to be  
4           performed by environmental consulting firms experienced in MGP site remediation  
5           and under the oversight of Ohio EPA VAP Certified Professionals (CPs), whose  
6           role is to ensure activities are compliant with Ohio EPA's VAP regulations. The  
7           Ohio EPA VAP CPs and environmental consultants hired to perform activities at  
8           the two sites continue to work with me to ensure that the work complies with the  
9           VAP and meets all applicable local, state, and federal standards, as well as to ensure  
10          that the environmental conditions at the sites are protective of human health and the  
11          environment, both short term and long term.

**III.    REMEDATION AT EAST END AND WEST END SITES**

12   **Q.     PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COMPANY'S GENERAL USE OF THE EAST**  
13   **END AND WEST END SITES IN 2018.**

14    A.     Both the East End and West End facilities continued to be used as plant in service  
15           for utility service by Duke Energy Ohio. At the East End site, the facility continues  
16           to be used as a synthetic natural gas peaking station with significant above and  
17           underground facilities throughout the area, especially in the location referred to as  
18           the "Middle Parcel."

19                 At the West End site, Duke Energy's Transmission and Distribution Group  
20           continues to operate the electrical substations. The Company continues to own and  
21           operate two 12-inch diameter gas transmission pipelines that enter Ohio at the West  
22           End site. At the valve pit on the riverbank, the two lines combine into one 20-inch

1 pipeline. There is also a gas measurement station at this location. This building also  
2 houses the Remote Terminal Units (RTU) equipment, which is part of the  
3 Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system that monitors and  
4 controls the natural gas distribution system. This line supplies approximately  
5 20,000 customers in a peak hour.

6 **Q. PLEASE IDENTIFY THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN 2018 THAT**  
7 **RELATE TO THE REMEDIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL**  
8 **CONDITIONS RESULTING FROM THE FORMER EAST END MGP.**

9 A. All upland work at the East End site performed in 2018 was conducted under the  
10 oversight of an Ohio EPA VAP CP, employed by the firm of Haley & Aldrich, Inc.  
11 (Haley & Aldrich). As noted in the Commission's Order, the work at the East End  
12 site was initially divided into three smaller identified areas for environmental  
13 investigation and remediation purposes only that are referred to, for purposes of the  
14 VAP, as the "East Parcel," "Middle Parcel," and "West Parcel." As required by the  
15 VAP, further investigation of the extent of the MGP contamination was conducted  
16 and remediation was performed in an area referred to as the "Area West of the West  
17 Parcel" (see further testimony on this subject below).

18 In 2018, Haley & Aldrich's work included completing *in-situ* solidification  
19 activities within the Phase 3 Area (Middle Parcel), backfilling and restoring the  
20 Phase 3 Area; completing *in-situ* solidification activities within the Phase 6 Area  
21 (Middle Parcel), and initiated remedial activities in the Phase 4 Area (part of the  
22 Middle Parcel), which included excavation and *in-situ* solidification.

23 Duke Energy Ohio engaged Anchor QEA, LLC (Anchor QEA) to

1 investigate whether there are any impacts to the Ohio River from the former MGP  
2 operations and if so, the nature and extent of any impacts. This work is being  
3 performed in consultation with Haley & Aldrich's Ohio EPA VAP CP to ensure  
4 that the activities are compliant with Ohio EPA's VAP regulations and is consistent  
5 with the work that has been performed in the uplands. In 2018, Anchor QEA's work  
6 included the installation of borings and the collection of samples for laboratory  
7 analysis within the Ohio River. All work conducted within the Ohio River was  
8 completed within the State of Ohio and within the geographical boundaries of the  
9 historical MGP facility. Because of the construction of the Markland Dam in the  
10 1960s, the elevation of the Ohio River today is much higher today than it was during  
11 the operation of the MGPs at the East End and West End sites decades ago. As  
12 such, the original southern boundaries of the East End and West End sites are now  
13 located more than two hundred feet further into the current Ohio River due to the  
14 higher water levels.

15 During the remedial activities, consistent with previous work, precautions  
16 were taken to ensure that the critical infrastructure at the site was not damaged;  
17 Duke Energy contracted with Terracon Consultants, Inc. to conduct vibration  
18 monitoring of the critical infrastructure during the remediation activities.

19 Ambient air monitoring activities continue to be conducted by AECOM to  
20 monitor the perimeter ambient air quality during remedial activities.

21 In addition, Haley & Aldrich conducted quarterly groundwater sampling on  
22 all four parcels that contained groundwater monitoring wells.

1    **Q.    PLEASE IDENTIFY THE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN 2018 THAT**  
2       **RELATE TO THE REMEDIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL**  
3       **CONDITIONS RESULTING FROM THE FORMER WEST END MGP**  
4       **SITE.**

5    **A.    The work performed in 2018 included an Ohio VAP Phase II Property Assessment**  
6       **of the area west of the existing substation (Phase 4 Area) which was completed by**  
7       **AECOM.**

8           In addition, Arcadis completed the remedial engineering design services for  
9       the Phase 3 Area and Tower Area based upon the previously completed Remedial  
10      Alternatives Analysis. This work also included the development of all necessary  
11      work plans and permit applications for the planned remedial activities. Upon  
12      completion of the remedial designs, Arcadis held a bid event for construction  
13      services and four bids were obtained and evaluated by Arcadis and Duke Energy  
14      Ohio. The evaluation concluded that Northstar should be awarded the project based  
15      upon multiple evaluation factors which include costing, means & methods, health  
16      & safety, schedule and resources.

17           Duke Energy Ohio engaged Anchor QEA to investigate whether there are  
18      any impacts to the Ohio River from the former MGP operations and, if so, the nature  
19      and extent of any such impacts, as well as other evaluations of the conditions in  
20      connection with the investigation and remediation of the West End site. This work  
21      is being performed in consultation with Haley & Aldrich's Ohio EPA VAP CP to  
22      ensure that the activities are compliant with Ohio EPA's VAP regulations and is  
23      consistent with the work that has been performed in the uplands. In 2018, Anchor

1 QEA's work included evaluation of the laboratory analysis of samples from the  
2 river bank and sediment samples from the Ohio. This work and analysis is ongoing  
3 and final results are still unknown at this time.

4 In addition, AECOM conducted quarterly groundwater sampling of all  
5 groundwater monitoring wells at the West End site.

6 **Q. PLEASE DETAIL THE 2018 COSTS INCURRED AT BOTH THE EAST**  
7 **END AND WEST END SITES FOR WHICH DUKE ENERGY OHIO IS**  
8 **SEEKING RECOVERY THROUGH RIDER MGP.**

9 A. In 2018, Duke Energy Ohio incurred \$19,804,030.73 in MGP costs at the East End  
10 and West End sites. The recovery mechanism for the costs incurred in 2018 is  
11 discussed in the Direct Testimony of Duke Energy Ohio witness Sarah E. Lawler.  
12 The categories of costs that are described at length in the Commission's Order are  
13 applicable to the remediation activities that occurred in 2018. External costs  
14 included: environmental consultants used for the investigation of the soil,  
15 groundwater and sediment impacts; environmental consultants used to perform  
16 oversight during remedial actions; environmental contractors and subcontractors  
17 used to perform excavation and *in situ* stabilization; disposal costs; and analytical  
18 laboratories that analyzed soil and groundwater samples.

19 Internal costs included: expenses for Duke Energy employees working on  
20 the project; oversight by the Duke Energy Analytical Laboratory located in  
21 Huntersville, North Carolina that performed audits of the analytical laboratories  
22 and performed quality control and review of analytical data; oversight and  
23 coordination by Duke Energy Power Delivery and Gas Operations personnel while



1 working in close proximity to sensitive electrical and/or gas utilities; survey  
2 support; and project management oversight.

3 Although Duke Energy Ohio's responsibility is to remediate all impacts  
4 associated with the former MGP operations, in 2018, all costs incurred for both the  
5 East End and the West End sites are associated with activities conducted within the  
6 original MGP facility operational boundaries.

7 **Q. DID DUKE ENERGY OHIO HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO REMEDIATE**  
8 **THE AREA WEST OF THE WEST PARCEL AS PART OF THE EAST END**  
9 **SITE?**

10 **A.** Yes. Duke Energy Ohio completed active remediation of the Area West of the West  
11 Parcel in 2017. Although a portion of the Area West of the West Parcel was part of  
12 the 9-acre property that was acquired from DCI Properties, Inc. in 2011, much of  
13 the Area West of the West Parcel had been owned by Duke Energy Ohio and its  
14 predecessor companies since at least 1928, during which the East End site was  
15 operated as an MGP. Therefore, much of the Area West of the West Parcel was part  
16 of the original East End MGP. A figure depicting the portions of the Area West  
17 of the West Parcel that were part of the former East End MGP site is attached as  
18 TLB-1.

19 The "parcel" designations at the East End site were not intended to identify  
20 actual real estate parcel boundaries or facility operations, but were utilized to denote  
21 phases of remediation under the VAP. These designations were intended to help  
22 identify and reference the areas that were to be phased for purposes of investigation  
23 and remediation and were not intended to serve as real estate descriptions.



1 More importantly, even if the Area West of the West Parcel had not been  
2 part of the former East End MGP operations, Duke Energy Ohio would still be  
3 obligated under applicable environmental laws to investigate the extent of the  
4 contamination from the former MGP operations and to remediate, if needed,  
5 impacts from the former MGP operations. This obligation exists regardless of  
6 whether the impacts are within any specific "parcel" or geographic boundaries, as  
7 Duke Energy Ohio has liability for those impacts and must remediate them in order  
8 to address its liability under applicable environmental laws for the contamination  
9 at these sites.

10 Based on the investigation at the East End site as required by the VAP, it  
11 was determined that there were MGP impacts in the "Area West of the West  
12 Parcel," similar in nature to the impacts that were present in other areas of the  
13 property, including areas that were remediated and addressed prior to 2013. As  
14 such, it logically followed remedial approaches to address the impacts in the Area  
15 West of the West Parcel that have been consistent with the approach utilized  
16 throughout the East End site, which has involved, at least in part, excavation and  
17 treatment (*i.e., in situ* solidification) of contamination in source areas, where OLM  
18 and TLM were present.

19 **Q. HAS DUKE ENERGY OHIO SOUGHT TO RECOVER COSTS**  
20 **ASSOCIATED WITH THE RELOCATION OF THE ELECTRIC**  
21 **SUBSTATION ON THE WEST END SITE TO ACCOMMODATE THE**  
22 **BRENT SPENCE BRIDGE?**

1 A. No. Duke Energy Ohio has sought recovery of only MGP remediation-related costs  
2 through the annual Riders. Duke Energy Ohio has not sought to recover through  
3 the Rider any costs for the electric substation relocation project as these costs were  
4 tracked and budgeted separately.

5 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE GENERAL PROCESS USED TO ENSURE THE**  
6 **REASONABLENESS OF COSTS INCURRED TO REMEDIATE THE**  
7 **EAST END AND WEST END SITES.**

8 A. As detailed in the Commission's Order, Duke Energy Ohio employs and has  
9 continued to employ a number of procedures to ensure that the scope of  
10 investigation and cleanup work is appropriate and that the cost to perform that work  
11 is reasonable and prudent. Duke Energy project managers work closely with Ohio  
12 EPA VAP CPs and experienced environmental consultants to evaluate different  
13 options based on various criteria, including compliance with environmental  
14 regulations, protection of human health and the environment, best practices,  
15 feasibility, constructability, safety, prior experience, and cost. These considerations  
16 are built into the solicitation of bids and estimates through Duke Energy's "Request  
17 for Proposals" process. Bids are screened first on their technical merit, and then  
18 evaluated for cost. Work that is awarded without going through all aspects of this  
19 process must be justified to and approved by Duke Energy management. Scope  
20 modifications that are made in the field due to new or changing field conditions  
21 must be approved by Duke Energy project managers and may also require approval  
22 from Duke Energy management and/or Duke Energy's finance department  
23 depending on the extent of the modification and other circumstances.

1   **Q.    BASED ON YOUR EXPERIENCE, DID DUKE ENERGY OHIO**  
2       **REASONABLY AND PRUDENTLY INCUR \$19,804,030 IN COSTS IN**  
3       **2018?**

4    A.    Yes. The activities that occurred at the East End and West End MGP properties  
5       related to the remediation of MGP impacts were conducted consistent with the  
6       procedures described in 2012 written testimony and 2013 oral testimony in the  
7       Duke Energy Ohio Natural Gas Distribution Rate Case, activities that were deemed  
8       to be reasonable and prudent by the Commission's Order. The approach and scope  
9       of the remedial activity that has been conducted at the East End and West End sites  
10      since the Commission's Order have been consistent with what was deemed to be  
11      reasonable and prudent by the Commission's Order involving excavation and *in-*  
12      *situ* solidification (ISS) in areas with OLM and TLM. Based on my experience  
13      with remediating contaminated sites, including MGP sites like East End and West  
14      End, the \$19,804,030 represents reasonable and prudent costs for the work that was  
15      performed in 2018.

16   **Q.    PLEASE DISCUSS THE TIMING AND PLANNING RELATED TO THE**  
17       **WORK THAT WAS PERFORMED IN 2018 PLANNED TO BE**  
18       **PERFORMED AT THE EAST END AND WEST END SITES IN 2019.**

19   A.    These types of environmental projects are iterative in nature and Duke Energy Ohio  
20       has phased the remediation in a prudent fashion to avoid needless expense and in a  
21       manner that protects the safety of Duke Energy Ohio's employees and the  
22       community and avoids potential disruptions to natural gas and electric services. As  
23       is typical for these types of cleanups, the upland areas where the former MGP

1 processes were located are the first to be evaluated and remediated. Now Duke  
2 Energy Ohio has begun to evaluate potential impacts in the Ohio River, to  
3 determine whether impacts are present and to determine what remediation will be  
4 required, if any. In addition, Duke Energy Ohio will continue to evaluate the  
5 groundwater at both sites on a quarterly basis.

6 The East End Gas Works is a high-risk gas facility with sensitive  
7 underground infrastructure. As such, extra security and safety precautions must be  
8 taken when remediating this site to ensure the safety of Duke Energy Ohio's  
9 employees as well as the surrounding community. Work planned in 2019 at the East  
10 End site includes completing remediation of the currently accessible areas of the  
11 Middle Parcel, completing investigation of the Ohio River bank and sediments, and  
12 continuation of the annual groundwater monitoring program.

13 At the West End site, work planned in 2019 will involve implementing the  
14 remedial actions in the Phase 3 Area, which is immediately to the west of the  
15 existing Brent Spence Bridge right-of-way, and the Tower Area. Duke Energy Ohio  
16 selected Arcadis to complete the engineering design and Northstar to implement  
17 the remedial tasks. In addition, the Company will continue to monitor the site  
18 groundwater on a quarterly basis and will complete the investigation of the Ohio  
19 River bank and sediments.

20 **Q. DOES DUKE ENERGY OHIO HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO**  
21 **INVESTIGATE AND REMEDIATE, IF NEEDED, THE OHIO RIVER AND**  
22 **THE RIVER SEDIMENTS?**

23 **A.** Yes. My understanding based on my experience remediating sites and discussions

1 with Duke Energy Ohio's VAP CPs and the Company's legal counsel is that Duke  
2 Energy Ohio has an obligation to investigate and remediate, if needed, MGP  
3 impacts to the Ohio River. Duke Energy Ohio's liability does not simply end at a  
4 geographic border, but rather is based on where the contamination may have  
5 migrated and where people and ecologic resources may be exposed.

6 In addition, as I previously explained, part of the area that is currently under  
7 the Ohio River waterline was formerly part of the East End site during its operations  
8 as an MGP. The low-water mark of the Ohio River has changed significantly over  
9 time, particularly since the construction of the Markland Dam in the 1960s. The  
10 East End site extended more than two hundred feet further into the current Ohio  
11 River during the East End site's operation as an MGP. The investigation that has  
12 been conducted in the Ohio River to date is in areas that were actually part of the  
13 former East End site prior to the 1960s.

14 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHAT DUKE ENERGY OHIO IS DOING TO PURSUE**  
15 **OTHER MEANS OF FUNDING THE REMEDIATION AT EAST END AND**  
16 **WEST END.**

17 **A.** Duke Energy Ohio witnesses Keith Butler and Michael Lynch will explain  
18 activities related to the Company's efforts to seek insurance coverage for the costs  
19 incurred in remediating the two former MGP sites, consistent with the  
20 Commission's Order.

21 Duke Energy Ohio continued discussions with NiSource, Inc. (NiSource)  
22 and TransCanada Corporation (which purchased Columbia Pipeline in 2016)  
23 related to the historic MGP operations at the two sites. NiSource and/or

1 TransCanada is an alleged successor to Columbia Gas & Electric, which was the  
2 parent company to Duke Energy Ohio's predecessor companies, during a portion  
3 of the MGP operations at the East End and West End sites. The parties have not  
4 reached agreement as to Columbia Gas & Electric's responsibility and obligations  
5 at the East End and West End sites, if any. Discussions with NiSource and  
6 TransCanada are expected to continue.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

7 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

8 A. Yes.





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