

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW OF THE
DISTRIBUTION MODERNIZATION RIDER
OF OHIO EDISON COMPANY, THE
CLEVELAND ELECTRIC ILLUMINATING
COMPANY, AND THE TOLEDO EDISON
COMPANY.

CASE NO. 17-2474-EL-RDR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on April 26, 2019

{¶ 1} Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company, and The Toledo Edison Company (collectively, FirstEnergy) are electric distribution utilities as defined by R.C. 4928.01(A)(6), and public utilities as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, are 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 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 4928.143.

{¶ 3} On March 31, 2016, in Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO, the Commission approved FirstEnergy's application for an ESP. *In re Ohio Edison Co., The Cleveland Elec. Illum. Co., and the Toledo Edison Co. for Authority to Provide for a Std. Serv. Offer Pursuant to Section 4928.143, Revised Code, in the Form of an Elec. Security Plan*, Case No. 14-1297-EL-SSO (*ESP IV Case*), Opinion and Order (Mar. 31, 2016). Further, on October 12, 2016, the Commission issued the Fifth Entry on Rehearing in the *ESP IV Case*. On rehearing, the Commission authorized FirstEnergy to implement a distribution modernization rider (Rider DMR). *ESP IV Case*, Fifth Entry on Rehearing (Oct. 12, 2016) at ¶185. Additionally, the Commission ruled that Staff will review the expenditure of Rider DMR revenues to ensure that Rider DMR revenues are used, directly or indirectly, in support of grid modernization. *ESP IV Case*, Fifth Entry on Rehearing (Oct. 12, 2016) at ¶282.

{¶ 4} Subsequently, the Commission directed Staff to prepare a request for proposal (RFP) for a third-party monitor to assist Staff in the review of Rider DMR. *ESP IV Case*, Eighth Entry on Rehearing (Aug. 16, 2017) at ¶113.

{¶ 5} Thereafter, by Entry issued on December 13, 2017, in this proceeding, the Commission directed Staff to issue a RFP for a third-party monitor to assist Staff in the review of Rider DMR, consistent with the Commission's previous directives. *ESP IV Case*, Eighth Entry on Rehearing (Aug. 16, 2017) at ¶113. On January 24, 2018, the Commission selected Oxford Advisors, LLC (Oxford) to serve as the third-party monitor.

{¶ 6} In the *ESP IV Case*, the Commission directed the monitor to file a mid-term report of its review of Rider DMR in any proceeding in which the Companies seek an extension of Rider DMR, within 60 days after the filing of the application seeking such extension. *ESP IV Case*, Eighth Entry on Rehearing (Aug. 16, 2017) at ¶113.

{¶ 7} On February 1, 2019, FirstEnergy filed an application in Case No. 19-361-EL-RDR, seeking an extension of Rider DMR, resulting in an original filing deadline for the mid-term report of April 1, 2019.

{¶ 8} On March 18, 2019, Staff requested a brief extension of time for the filing of the mid-term report, which was granted by the attorney examiner by Entry issued March 21, 2019. Accordingly, Oxford was instructed to file the mid-term report in Case No. 19-361-EL-RDR by April 29, 2019.

{¶ 9} Thereafter, on April 24, 2019, Staff submitted a second motion for an extension of time for the filing of the mid-term report. Staff represents that Oxford needs additional time to complete the mid-term report and requests that the date for filing the report be extended to May 31, 2019.

{¶ 10} The attorney examiner finds that the motion for an extension of time is reasonable and should be granted. Accordingly, Oxford shall file the mid-term report in the docket for Case No. 19-361-EL-RDR by May 31, 2019, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

{¶ 11} It is, therefore,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That Oxford file the mid-term report of its review of Rider DMR in the docket for Case No. 19-361-EL-RDR by May 31, 2019, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Megan J. Addison

By: Megan J. Addison
Attorney Examiner

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in

Case No(s). 17-2474-EL-RDR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry ordering Oxford Advisors, LLC to file a mid-term report by 5/31/19 electronically filed by Ms. Mary E Fischer on behalf of Megan J. Addison, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio