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 June 11, 2019

{¶ 1} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke or 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. The rider is to be reviewed annually for accounting accuracy, prudency, and compliance with the Commission's Order. Further, the Commission found that a compliance audit of the 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 DCI rider. 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 January 11, 2019, the attorney examiner set forth a procedural scheduling asking for motions to intervene to be filed by February 12, 2019, comments to be filed by February 26, 2019, and reply comments to be filed by March 12, 2019.

{¶ 8} On February 26, 2019, Duke, Staff, and the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) filed comments and on March 12, 2019, Duke, Staff, and OCC filed reply comments.

{¶ 9} On April 8, 2019, the attorney examiner set the matter for hearing commencing on May 20, 2019.

{¶ 10} On May 2, 2019, the attorney examiner granted Staff's motion for an extension of the procedural schedule until June 19, 2019.

{¶ 11} On June 10, 2019, Staff and Duke filed a Stipulation and Recommendation (Stipulation).

{¶ 12} Additionally, on June 10, 2019, Staff filed an unopposed motion for the extension of the procedural schedule. Staff states that the parties have engaged in settlement negotiations and have filed a partial Stipulation. Staff requests that the procedural schedule be modified and that testimony in support of the Stipulation should be filed by June 18, 2019, and that the hearing scheduled for June 19, 2019, be treated as a prehearing conference to discuss the procedural schedule going forward.

{¶ 13} The attorney examiner finds good cause exists to grant Staff's motion. Accordingly, testimony in support of the Stipulation should be filed by June 18, 2019, and a prehearing conference should begin on June 19, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., in Hearing Room 11C on the 11th Floor of the Commission's offices, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus 43215-3793.

{¶ 14} It is, therefore,

{¶ 15} ORDERED, That Staff's motion for a continuance be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 16} ORDERED, That testimony in support of the Stipulation be filed by June 18, 2019, as set forth in Paragraph 13. It is, further,

{¶ 17} ORDERED, That a prehearing conference be held on June 19, 2019, as set forth in Paragraph 13. It is, further,

{¶ 18} 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

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting Staff's motion for continuance, directing testimony in support of the Stipulation be filed by 06/18/2019, and scheduling prehearing conference for 06/19/2019 as set forth in Paragraph 13 - electronically filed by Sandra Coffey on behalf of Stacie Cathcart, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio