

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Ohio)
Edison Company to update its pole)
attachment rate) Case No. 20-1643-EL-ATA

**REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

On October 30, 2020, Ohio Edison Company (OE) filed an application to revise its pole attachment rate using 2019 data, initially seeking to increase the rate from \$12.06 per year to \$12.29 per year.

This application is being filed pursuant to Section 4901:1-3-4 Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.), as adopted in Case No. 13-579-AU-ORD, Commission Entry dated November 30, 2016 in Case No. 13-579-AU-ORD and Commission Finding and Order dated October 24, 2018 in Case No. 18-47-AU-COI. Pursuant to Commission Entry dated November 30, 2016, in Case No. 13-579-AU-ORD, the application is subject to a 60-day automatic approval process.

During the course of the investigation, Staff determined that poles associated with non-unitized investment in Account 364 were not included in the pole count used in the rate calculation. On December 23, 2020, upon the recommendation of staff, OE amended its application to include an estimate of the number of poles associated with non-unitized Account 364 investment. To do so, the company calculated the actual, average cost of a pole placed and unitized in 2019. It then divided the non-unitized pole investment in Account 364 by the actual, average cost of a pole placed in 2019 to arrive at an estimate of the number of poles associated with non-unitized Account 364 investment. As a result, 5,412 poles were added to the pole count used in the rate formula yielding a new proposed rate of \$12.17.

Staff has reviewed the pole attachment rate calculations as well as the source of the data used in the calculations provided by OE and has found them to be consistent with the formula contained in rule 4901:1-3-4(D)(2) as well as prior Commission decisions. Staff believes OE's methodology for estimating the number of poles associated with non-unitized Account 364 investment is reasonable.

As such, Staff believes that approval of the application will promote public convenience and result in the provision of adequate service for a reasonable rate, rental, toll, or charge. Therefore, Staff recommends that the application be automatically approved on December 29, 2020, with an effective date of January 1, 2021.

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Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Jason Well on behalf of PUCO Staff