

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
THE EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY D/B/A
DOMINION ENERGY OHIO TO ADJUST ITS
PIPELINE INFRASTRUCTURE
REPLACEMENT PROGRAM COST
RECOVERY CHARGE AND RELATED
MATTERS.

CASE NO. 20-1625-GA-RDR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on March 1, 2021

{¶ 1} The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio (Dominion) is a natural gas company, as defined by R.C. 4905.03, and a public utility, as defined by R.C. 4905.02. As such, Dominion is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission pursuant to R.C. 4905.04, 4905.05, and 4905.06.

{¶ 2} R.C. 4929.11 provides that the Commission may allow any automatic adjustment mechanism or device in a natural gas company's rate schedules that allows a natural gas company's rates or charges for a regulated service or goods to fluctuate automatically in accordance with changes in a specified cost or costs.

{¶ 3} In Case No. 07-829-GA-AIR, et al., pursuant to a stipulation, the Commission approved, with certain modifications as recommended by Staff, Dominion's recovery mechanism for its pipeline infrastructure replacement (PIR) program and the process for annual updates to the PIR cost recovery charge. *In re The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio*, Case No. 07-829-GA-AIR, et al., Opinion and Order (Oct. 15, 2008).

{¶ 4} In Case No. 11-2401-GA-ALT, the Commission approved a stipulation and recommendation that modified Dominion's PIR program. As part of the modified program, Dominion agreed to transition its PIR cost recovery charge filings from a fiscal-year basis to a calendar-year basis and to submit a pre-filing notice by November 30 each year, and an updated filing with actual data by February 28, with the goal of the revised PIR charge becoming effective as of the first billing cycle in May of each year. *In re The East Ohio Gas*

Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio, Case No. 11-2401-GA-ALT, Opinion and Order (Aug. 3, 2011).

{¶ 5} Subsequently, in Case No. 15-362-GA-ALT, the Commission approved a stipulation that extended Dominion's PIR program and rider through 2021. *In re The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio*, Case No. 15-362-GA-ALT, Opinion and Order (Sept. 14, 2016).

{¶ 6} On November 30, 2020, in the above-noted case, Dominion filed a prefiling notice of an application to adjust the PIR cost recovery charge to recover costs incurred during 2020.

{¶ 7} On February 26, 2021, Dominion filed its application to adjust its PIR charge.

{¶ 8} In order to accomplish the review of Dominion's proposed adjustment to the PIR cost recovery charge, the attorney examiner finds that the following procedural schedule should be established. For administrative efficiency, the procedural schedule for this case is being combined with the schedule for *In re The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a/ Dominion Energy Ohio for Approval of Tariffs to Adjust Its Automated Meter Reading Cost Recovery Charge to Recover Costs Incurred in 2020*, Case No. 20-1624-GA-RDR:

- (a) March 23, 2021 - Deadline for the filing of motions to intervene.
- (b) March 23, 2021 - Deadline for Staff and intervenors to file comments on the application.
- (c) March 29, 2021 - Deadline for Dominion to file a statement informing the Commission whether the issues raised in the comments have been resolved.
- (d) March 31, 2021 - Deadline for the parties and Staff to file expert testimony.

- (e) In the event that some or all of the parties enter into a stipulation resolving some or all of the issues in this case, the parties must file such stipulation with the Commission by 9:00 a.m. on April 2, 2021.
- (f) In the event that all of the issues are not resolved or the parties enter into a stipulation, a hearing shall commence on April 5, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Given the continuing COVID-19 health emergency, the hearing will be held using remote access technology that facilitates participation by telephone and/or live video on the internet. Additional details and instructions regarding remote access to the hearing will be provided by future entry. Any party requesting a continuance of the hearing must file a motion to continue the hearing with the Commission by 10:00 a.m. on April 2, 2021.

{¶ 9} In light of the time frame for this proceeding, the attorney examiner requires that, in the event that any motion is made in this proceeding, any memorandum contra shall be filed within three business days after the service of such motion, and a reply memorandum to any memorandum contra will not be accepted. Parties shall provide service of pleadings via hand delivery, facsimile, or e-mail.

{¶ 10} In addition, the attorney examiner finds that the response time for discovery shall be shortened to seven calendar days. Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, discovery requests and replies shall be served by hand delivery, facsimile, or e-mail. An attorney serving a discovery request shall attempt to contact the attorney upon whom the discovery request will be served in advance to advise him/her that a request will be forthcoming.

{¶ 11} It is, therefore,

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

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That the parties adhere to the processes established in Paragraphs 9 and 10. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Greta See

By: Greta See
Attorney Examiner

GAP/hac

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Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

3/2/2021 11:45:44 AM

in

Case No(s). 20-1625-GA-RDR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry ordering that the procedural schedule set forth in Paragraph 8 be adopted and ordering that the parties adhere to the processes established in Paragraphs 9 and 10 electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Greta See, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission