

Mike DeWine, Governor Jenifer French, Chair M. Beth Trombold Lawrence K. Friedeman Dennis P. Deters Daniel R. Conway

June 16, 2021

Docketing Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus OH 43215

RE: In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company for Approval of Tariff

Amendments, Case No. 21-0484-EL-ATA

# Dear Docketing Division:

Enclosed please find the Review and Recommendations of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Staff) in the Matter of the Application of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company for Approval of Tariff Amendments, Case No. 21-0484-EL-ATA.

David Lipthratt

Chief, Accounting & Finance Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Enclosure

Cc: Parties of Record

## First Energy Company Case No. 21-484-EL-ATA (Rider CSR)

### **SUMMARY**

On January 15, 2020, in Case No. 19-2080-EL-ATA, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) approved the application for a decoupling mechanism filed by Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company (the Companies or FirstEnergy) pursuant to Ohio Revised Code ("R.C.") Section 4928.471. R.C.4928.471 was enacted as part of Am. Sub. H.B. 6 ("HB 6") and authorizes an electric distribution utility to file an application to implement a decoupling mechanism. The decoupling mechanism proposed and approved by the Companies was the Conservation Support Rider (Rider CSR) and was designed to true up the Companies' annual residential and commercial customer base distribution revenue and revenue resulting from implementation of R.C. 4928.66 to the 2018 Baseline Revenue. Rider CSR will be calculated for each Company individually, with separate calculation for residential and commercial customers.

On April 22, 2021, the Company filed for approval a request to modify Rider CSR to return to customers the full amount of revenues collected from customers through Rider CSR, plus interest, over a 12-month period commencing June 1, 2021. The Companies propose that the refunds paid to customers shall be allocated to customer classes in the same proportion as originally collected.

The Companies proposed Rider CSR rates are as follows:

Conservation Support Rider Rates				
	Residential		Commercial	
	Rate 1	Rate 2	Rate 1	Rate 2
Ohio Edison Company	\$ (0.000755) per kWh	\$ (0.000136) per kWh	\$ (0.2427) kW over 5 kW	\$ 0.000428 kW over 5 kW
Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company	\$ (0.001273) per kWh	\$ (0.00462) per kWh	\$ (0.3087) kW over 5 kW	\$ 0.000035 kW over 5 kW
Toledo Edison Company	\$ (0.001283) per kWh	\$ (0.00011) per kWh	\$ (0.4686) kW over 5 kW	\$ 0.000423 kW over 5 kW

The Companies propose in total to credit customers \$27,447,717, including interest, over a 12-month period commencing on June 1, 2021.

On May 17, 2021, the Commission issued an entry Ordering that interest parties file initial and reply comments regarding the Companies application by June 7, 2021 and June 17, 2021, respectively.

#### FINANCIAL AUDIT

In its review, Staff examined the as-filed schedules for consistency with previous CSR cases to ensure proper accounting and regulatory treatment was applied. The audit consisted of a review of the financial statements for completeness, occurrence, presentation, valuation, allocation and accuracy. Staff conducted this audit through a combination of document review and calls with Company.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has completed its review of the filing, the associated workpapers and supporting source documents and finds that the Company has appropriately calculated its rates in the Rider CSR filing. Staff recommends that the Commission Order the Company to expediate the refunds to customers over a three-month period, in the amount and manner as proposed in this application but with updated rates and interest expense accounting for the three-month recovery period.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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Case No(s). 21-0484-EL-ATA

Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation in the Matter of the Application of Ohio Edison Company, The Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and The Toledo Edison Company for Approval of Tariff Amendments electronically filed by Zee Molter on behalf of PUCO Staff