

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE ANNUAL  
APPLICATION OF THE EAST OHIO GAS  
COMPANY D/B/A DOMINION ENERGY  
OHIO FOR AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE  
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM RIDER  
RATE.

CASE NO. 21-619-GA-RDR

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 6, 2021

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

{¶ 2} R.C. 4929.111 provides that a natural gas company may file an application to implement a capital expenditure program (CEP) for any infrastructure expansion, improvement, or replacement program; any program to install, upgrade, or replace information technology systems; or any program reasonably necessary to comply with any rules, regulations, or orders of the Commission or other governmental entity having jurisdiction. If the Commission finds that the CEP is consistent with the applicant's statutory obligation to furnish necessary and adequate facilities, which are also found to be just and reasonable, the Commission is tasked with approving the application and authorizing the deferral or recovery of both a regulatory asset for post in-service carrying costs (PISCC) on that portion of assets of the CEP placed in service but not reflected in rates as plant in service and a regulatory asset for the incremental depreciation directly attributable to the CEP and the property tax expense directly attributable to the CEP but not reflected in rates.

{¶ 3} In Case No. 11-6024-GA-UNC, et al., the Commission modified and approved Dominion's application for authority to implement a CEP for the period of October 1, 2011, through December 31, 2012. *In re The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio*, Case No. 11-6024-GA-UNC, et al., Finding and Order (Dec. 12, 2012). Subsequently, in Case No.

12-3279-GA-UNC, et al., the Commission modified and approved Dominion's application to implement a CEP for the period of January 1, 2013, through December 31, 2013. *In re The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio*, Case No. 12-3279-GA-UNC, et al., Finding and Order (Oct. 9, 2013).

{¶ 4} In Case No. 13-2410-GA-UNC, et al., the Commission modified and approved Dominion's application to implement a CEP in 2014 and succeeding years, pursuant to R.C. 4909.18 and 4929.111. The Commission also approved Dominion's request for accounting authority to capitalize PISCC on program investments for assets placed in service but not yet reflected in rates; defer depreciation expense and property tax expense directly attributable to the CEP; and establish a regulatory asset to which PISCC, depreciation expense, and property tax expense are deferred for future recovery in a subsequent proceeding. Dominion was authorized to accrue deferrals under the CEP until the accrued deferrals, if included in rates, would cause the rates charged to the Company's General Sales Service customers to increase by more than \$1.50 per month. Additionally, the Commission noted that the prudence and reasonableness of Dominion's CEP-related regulatory assets and associated capital spending would be considered in any future proceedings seeking cost recovery, at which time the Company would be expected to provide detailed information regarding the expenditures for the Commission's review. *In re The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio*, Case No. 13-2410-GA-UNC, et al., Finding and Order (July 2, 2014).

{¶ 5} On December 30, 2020, the Commission approved and adopted a stipulation and recommendation (Stipulation) that resolved all of the issues related to Dominion's application for an alternative rate plan to establish a CEP Rider for recovery of its CEP deferrals and investments from October 1, 2011, through December 31, 2018. *In re The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio*, Case No. 19-468-GA-ALT, Opinion and Order (Dec. 30, 2020). The Stipulation also provides that Dominion will file annual applications to update the CEP Rider rates on or before April 1 of each year and that the first annual update of the CEP Rider rates to be filed in 2021 will cover the CEP assets placed in service and the related CEP regulatory asset for the period of January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2020.

The Commission also directed Staff to monitor measures of profitability as part of Dominion's annual filings. Further, the Stipulation requires that Staff or its designee conduct a review of Dominion's annual application to update the CEP Rider rates to determine the lawfulness, used and usefulness, prudence, and reasonableness of the CEP assets placed in service and the related CEP regulatory asset included in the proposed CEP Rider revenue requirement.

{¶ 6} By Entry dated March 24, 2021, the Commission selected Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. (Blue Ridge) to assist Staff in performing the necessary review of Dominion's CEP Rider for the period of January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2020.

{¶ 7} On April 1, 2021, in the above-captioned case, Dominion filed its annual application to adjust the CEP Rider, along with the testimony of Celia B. Hashlamoun, in support of the application.

{¶ 8} On July 15, 2021, Blue Ridge filed its audit report.

{¶ 9} On August 2, 2021, Staff filed its review and recommendation (Staff Report) regarding Dominion's application.

{¶ 10} On August 4, 2021, the attorney examiner issued an Entry adopting a procedural schedule for the case.

{¶ 11} The attorney examiner has determined that the procedural schedule shall be modified as follows:

- (a) Deadline for the filing of motions to intervene is changed to August 16, 2021.
- (b) Deadline for any intervening party to file comments on either Dominion's application or the Staff Report is changed to August 16, 2021.

{¶ 12} The remaining procedural deadlines set forth in the August 4, 2021 Entry will remain the same.

{¶ 13} It is, therefore,

{¶ 14} ORDERED, That the existing procedural schedule be modified as set forth in Paragraph 11. It is, further,

{¶ 15} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all interested persons and parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Jacky Werman St. John

By: Jacky Werman St. John  
Attorney Examiner

MJA/mef

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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**Case No(s). 21-0619-GA-RDR**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry modifying the procedural schedule: motions to intervene and intervening party comments on application or staff report due 8/16/21. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Jacky Werman St. John, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio