THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR A WAIVER OF OHIO ADM.CODE 4901:1-10-33(C)(13).

CASE NO. 19-1389-EL-WVR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on January 12, 2022

I. SUMMARY

 $\{\P 1\}$ The Commission grants the request of Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio to withdraw its motion to extend the waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13) and approves revised tariffs.

II. DISCUSSION

- $\{\P\ 2\}$ Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio (AEP Ohio or the Company) is an electric distribution utility, as defined in 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.
- {¶ 3} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C) identifies the information that must be included on consolidated customer bills issued by or on behalf of an electric utility and a competitive retail electric service provider. Among other information, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13), such bills must include the due date for payment to keep the account current. The rule specifies that the due date must be not less than 14 days from the date of postmark or, for residential bills being issued from outside the state of Ohio, not less than 21 days.
- {¶ 4} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-02(C) permits the Commission, upon an application or a motion filed by a party, to waive any requirement of Ohio Adm.Code Chapter 4901:1-10, other than a requirement mandated by statute, for good cause shown.
- {¶ 5} By Finding and Order dated September 26, 2019, the Commission approved AEP Ohio's application for a one-year waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13) to

19-1389-EL-WVR -2-

enable the Company to move its internal bill printing and mailing function from Canton, Ohio to a third party in Indianapolis, Indiana, while maintaining the Company's current practice of requiring that residential customer payments be made within 15 days after the date of postmark on the bill, rather than extending the bill due date to 21 days.

- {¶ 6} On August 5, 2020, AEP Ohio filed a motion to update its existing waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13), in light of a decision by its third-party vendor to move bill printing and mailing operations from Indianapolis, Indiana to Omaha, Nebraska. AEP Ohio requested a one-year temporary waiver of the rule, subject to the same directives set forth by the Commission in the September 26, 2019 Finding and Order.
- {¶ 7} By Second Finding and Order dated October 7, 2020, the Commission conditionally granted AEP Ohio's motion for amendment and extension of the prior waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13) for a limited period of six months, subject to the directives set forth by the Commission.
- $\{\P 8\}$ On April 26, 2021, AEP Ohio filed a motion to extend its waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13) for a 12-month period.
- {¶ 9} On May 10, 2021, Staff filed correspondence in response to AEP Ohio's motion. Staff recommended that the requested waiver extension be denied.
- {¶ 10} On June 24, 2021, AEP Ohio filed reply comments to address Staff's recommendation.
- $\{\P$ 11 $\}$ On October 7, 2021, Staff filed additional information to support its recommendation.
- {¶ 12} On December 27, 2021, AEP Ohio filed a notice of withdrawal of the motion for a waiver extension. AEP Ohio states that, in accordance with the Company's commitment in a joint stipulation and recommendation approved by the Commission in Case No. 19-1475-EL-RDR, the Company withdraws its request for an extension of the

19-1389-EL-WVR -3-

waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13). *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 19-1475-EL-RDR, Finding and Order (Dec. 1, 2021) at \P 26. AEP Ohio also notes that it has filed revised tariffs, which provide that, effective January 1, 2022, bills from the Company are due within 21 days after the mailing of the bill.

{¶ 13} The Commission finds that AEP Ohio's request to withdraw the motion for a waiver extension is reasonable and should be granted. We further find that AEP Ohio's revised tariffs should be approved and that no hearing is required on this matter. Accordingly, the above-captioned case should be closed of record.

III. ORDER

 $\{\P 14\}$ It is, therefore,

{¶ 15} ORDERED, That AEP Ohio's request to withdraw its motion for a waiver extension be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 16} ORDERED, That AEP Ohio's revised tariffs be approved. It is, further,

 \P 17 ORDERED, That this case be closed of record. It is, further,

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

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

M. Beth Trombold Lawrence K. Friedeman Daniel R. Conway

SJP/kck

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

1/12/2022 2:23:09 PM

in

Case No(s). 19-1389-EL-WVR

Summary: Entry granting the request of Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio to withdraw its motion to extend the waiver of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-10-33(C)(13) and approves revised tariffs electronically filed by Heather A. Chilcote on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio