

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

Robert R. Murphy)	
)	Case No. 22-443-EL-CSS
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
Ohio Power Company,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ANSWER OF RESPONDENT OHIO POWER COMPANY

Pursuant to Rule 4901-9-01(B) of the Ohio Administrative Code, Ohio Power Company (“AEP Ohio” or “the Company”) hereby responds as follows to the allegations contained in the Complaint that Complainant, Robert R. Murphy, filed in this proceeding on April 19, 2022:

ANSWER TO ALLEGATIONS

1. AEP Ohio admits that Complainant is a customer of AEP Ohio.
2. AEP Ohio admits that in February 2020, New River Electric Corporation conducted electric work on the service line located at 530 Cedar Run Rd., NE, Newark, Ohio 43055 (“the Property”).
3. AEP Ohio admits that AEP Ohio Line Crew Supervisor John Lang visited the Property in June 2021 in response to an inquiry by the Complainant related to the issues involved in this Complaint.
4. AEP Ohio admits that during his June visit to the Property, John Lang observed gutters overflowing.
5. AEP Ohio admits that Complainant filed damage claim number 079562103 with AEP Ohio on August 27, 2021.

6. AEP Ohio admits that on November 30, 2021, Sabrina Heckathorne issued a letter denying Complainant's damage claim number 079562103 and referred the claim to New River Electric Corporation.
7. AEP Ohio admits that the January 4, 2022 letter from New River Electrical Corporation attached to the Complaint is a true and accurate copy of the same letter that was also sent to AEP Ohio on that same date.
8. AEP Ohio denies or is without sufficient knowledge to ascertain the veracity of the remaining allegations as described in the Complaint and therefore denies the same.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

1. AEP Ohio avers that Complainant has failed to state reasonable grounds for a complaint as required by R.C. 4905.26.
2. The Complainant fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
3. AEP Ohio, at all times, complied with all applicable Ohio statutes; the Commission's rules, regulations, and orders; and AEP Ohio's tariffs.
4. The Complainant's claims are time-barred.
5. The PUCO lacks jurisdiction over this claim.
6. AEP Ohio reserves the right to raise additional affirmative defenses as warranted as this matter proceeds.

WHEREFORE, having fully responded to the Complaint, Respondent Ohio Power Company respectfully requests that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio dismiss the Complaint with prejudice and grant the Company all other necessary and proper relief.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael J. Schuler

Michael J. Schuler (0082390)

American Electric Power Service
Corporation

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(willing to accept service by e-mail)

**Counsel for Respondent Ohio Power
Company**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was served upon
Complainant at the address listed below by regular U.S. mail, postage prepaid, on this 9th day of
May, 2022.

Robert R. Murphy
530 Cedar Run Rd., NE
Newark, Ohio 43055

/s/ Michael J. Schuler

Michael J. Schuler (0082390)

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Case No(s). 22-0443-EL-CSS

Summary: Answer electronically filed by Michael J. Schuler on behalf of Ohio
Power Company