

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR APPROVAL
OF A GENERAL EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN
NATURAL GAS COMMODITY SALES
SERVICES OR ANCILLARY SERVICES.

CASE NO. 21-903-GA-EXM

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR TARIFF
APPROVAL.

CASE NO. 21-904-GA-ATA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR APPROVAL
TO CHANGE ACCOUNTING METHODS.

CASE NO. 21-905-GA-AAM

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 29, 2022

{¶ 1} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is a natural gas company and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and R.C. 4905.02, respectively. As such, Duke is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

{¶ 2} R.C. 4929.04 permits a natural gas company to request an exemption from certain provisions of the Ohio Revised Code, governing the company's commodity sales services and ancillary services. Further, Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-03 governs the filing requirements for exemption applications filed pursuant to R.C. 4929.04.

{¶ 3} On April 20, 2022, the Commission approved the Stipulation and Recommendation (Stipulation) filed in Case No. 14-375-GA-RDR, et al., *In re the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 14-375-GA-RDR, et al., Opinion and Order (Apr. 20, 2022). The Stipulation, among other things, required Duke to file an application to transition from its gas cost recovery process to a natural gas auction in the form of a standard service offer (SSO), and also required such application to consist of certain components, as outlined in the Stipulation.

{¶ 4} On April 27, 2022, Duke filed an application pursuant to R.C. 4929.04, Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-03, and the Stipulation for approval of a general exemption of certain

natural gas commodity sales services or ancillary services contained in the Ohio Revised Code. Additionally, Duke requests approval of several proposed riders pursuant to R.C. 4929.11, specifically SSO Rider, SSO Rate, SSO Cost Reconciliation Rider (Rider SSOCR), SSO Service, and Auction Transition Cost Rider (Rider ATC). Further, Duke requests approval of all applicable accounting authority necessary to implement Rider SSOCR and Rider ATC pursuant to R.C. 4905.13. Duke also requests approval of a bill format change, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-13-11(D), for natural gas customers to include a price-to-compare message, which it believes is consistent with the existing message for electric customers.

{¶ 5} On June 14, 2022, Commission Staff filed correspondence within which it stated that Duke's application is in compliance with the filing requirements of Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-03. Accordingly, the attorney examiner finds that Duke's application should be accepted as filed.

{¶ 6} On June 16, 2022, the attorney examiner issued an Entry establishing the following procedural schedule: the deadline for filing motions to intervene is July 8, 2022; the deadline for discovery requests (except as to notices of deposition) is August 17, 2022; the deadline for the filing of direct testimony on behalf of Staff and intervenors is September 7, 2022; and the evidentiary hearing was set to commence on September 20, 2022.

{¶ 7} On August 2, 2022, the attorney examiner granted Duke's June 30, 2022 motion for a continuance of the evidentiary hearing. The evidentiary hearing was rescheduled for September 27, 2022, to be held at the Commission's offices. The attorney examiner also found it reasonable to keep the remainder of the procedural schedule unchanged.

{¶ 8} In accordance with R.C. 4929.04 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-04, Duke should publish legal notice of the application and hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in all of the affected service territory once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the scheduled date of the hearing. The notice should not appear in the legal notices section of the newspaper. The notice should read as follows:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has scheduled a public hearing in Case Nos. 21-903-GA-EXM, 21-904-GA-ATA, and 21-905-GA-AAM, *In the Matter of the Application of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for Approval of a General Exemption of Certain Natural Gas Commodity Sales Services or Ancillary Services, for Tariff Approval, and for Approval to Change Accounting Methods.*

On April 27, 2022, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) filed an application pursuant to R.C. 4929.04, Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-19-03, and the Stipulation and Recommendation adopted by the Commission in Case No. 14-375-GA-RDR, et al., for approval to transition from its gas cost recovery process to a natural gas auction in the form of a standard service offer (SSO) and for approval of a general exemption of certain natural gas commodity sales services or ancillary services contained in the Ohio Revised Code. Additionally, Duke requests approval of several proposed riders pursuant to R.C. 4929.11, specifically SSO Rider, SSO Rate, SSO Cost Reconciliation Rider (Rider SSOCR), SSO Service, and Auction Transition Cost Rider (Rider ATC). Further, Duke requests approval of all applicable accounting authority necessary to implement Rider SSOCR and Rider ATC pursuant to R.C. 4905.13. Duke also requests approval of a bill format change, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-13-11(D), for natural gas customers to include a price-to-compare message, which Duke believes is consistent with the existing message for electric customers.

A hearing in this proceeding will commence on September 27, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, Hearing Room 11-A, 180 East Broad Street, 11th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Additionally, consistent with R.C. 4929.04, any member of the public may submit comments regarding the application. People may do so through submissions on the Commission's docketing website at <https://dis.puc.state.oh.us> or by mail to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Attention: Docketing Division, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Written comments should reference Case No. 21-903-GA-EXM. As with all cases before the Commission, comments will be accepted throughout the pendency of the case.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793, viewing the Commission's web page at <http://www.puco.ohio.gov>, or contacting the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826.

{¶ 9} It is, therefore,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That Duke publish notice of the application and hearing as set forth in Paragraph 8. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Matthew J. Sandor

By: Matthew J. Sandor
Attorney Examiner

JRJ/mef

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

Case No(s). 21-0903-GA-EXM, 21-0904-GA-ATA, 21-0905-GA-AAM

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry requiring applicant to publish notice of the application and hearing, as detailed herein electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Matthew J. Sandor, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio