

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR AUTHORITY
TO ESTABLISH A STANDARD SERVICE
OFFER PURSUANT TO R.C. 4928.143, IN
THE FORM OF AN ELECTRIC SECURITY
PLAN.

CASE NO. 23-23-EL-SSO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL
OF CERTAIN ACCOUNTING AUTHORITY.

CASE NO. 23-24-EL-AAM

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on April 17, 2023

{¶ 1} Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio (AEP Ohio or 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.

{¶ 2} R.C. 4928.141 mandates that an electric distribution utility shall provide to all consumers within its certified territory, a standard service offer (SSO) of all competitive retail electric services necessary to maintain essential electric services to customers, including a firm supply of electric generation service. The SSO may be either a market rate offer, in accordance with R.C. 4928.142, or an electric security plan (ESP), in accordance with R.C. 4928.143.

{¶ 3} On January 6, 2023, AEP Ohio filed an application that, if approved, would establish the Company's fifth ESP for a period to commence on June 1, 2024, and continue through May 31, 2030. AEP Ohio also filed an application for approval of certain accounting authority to implement aspects of the proposed ESP. In its application, AEP Ohio proposes a procedural schedule including that the hearing commence on July 10, 2023.

{¶ 4} A technical conference on AEP Ohio's ESP application was held on February 7, 2023.

{¶ 5} By Entry issued March 2, 2023, the attorney examiner set the procedural schedule for the Commission's consideration of AEP Ohio's ESP application and related matters, including the due date for motions to intervene, March 31, 2023.

{¶ 6} Timely motions to intervene were filed by: Ohio Energy Group, Armada Power, LLC, The Ohio Manufacturers' Association Energy Group, Citizens' Utility Board of Ohio, Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy, Calpine Retail Holdings, LLC, Nationwide Energy Partners, Ohio Hospital Association, ChargePoint, Inc., Walmart Inc., Interstate Gas Supply, LLC, Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC), The Kroger Company, One Energy Enterprises Inc., Ohio Environmental Council, Ohio Consumers' Counsel, Retail Energy Supply Association, Ohio Energy Leadership Council f.k.a. Industrial Energy Users-Ohio, jointly by Constellation Energy Generation, LLC and Constellation NewEnergy, Inc., Ohio Telecom Association, Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association, Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council, and Enel North America, Inc. No memorandum contra any of the motions to intervene was filed.

{¶ 7} The attorney examiner finds that the timely motions to intervene filed by the parties listed in Paragraph 6 are reasonable and should be granted.

{¶ 8} On February 8, 2023, Erica McConnell, an attorney in good standing in Ohio, filed a motion requesting that Robert Kelter (Movant) be permitted to appear pro hac vice as co-counsel for ELPC. In support of the motion, copies of the certificate of pro hac vice registration for Mr. Kelter furnished by the Supreme Court of Ohio Office of Attorney Services, and copies of the affidavits required by Gov. Bar R. XII(2)(A)(7), granting pro hac vice status to appear in Ohio proceedings until December 31, 2023, were filed with the Commission.

{¶ 9} The attorney examiner finds that the motion to admit Robert Kelter to appear pro hac vice as co-counsel on behalf of ELPC should be granted.

{¶ 10} By Entry issued March 21, 2023, five in-person local public hearings were scheduled throughout AEP Ohio's service area to provide customers a reasonable opportunity to provide testimony in these proceedings and AEP Ohio was directed to publish notice of the hearings.

{¶ 11} At this time, the attorney examiner finds that, in order to allow an opportunity for witnesses who may not be able to attend the in-person local public hearings to provide testimony, a virtual public hearing should be scheduled for May 9, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. The virtual hearing will be held via Webex, which will allow for participation by telephone and/or live video on the internet. Interested persons who are not a party to these cases and wish to provide testimony must pre-register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m. on May 8, 2023, at <https://bit.ly/23-23-REG> and entering "PUCO" if prompted for a password, or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826.

{¶ 12} Persons providing testimony will be required to provide their full name, home address, telephone number, and electronic mail address, if available; state that they wish to register for the public hearing in Case No. 23-23-EL-SSO, et al.; specify whether they plan to join the event by internet or telephone; and state that they intend to offer testimony. Persons who plan to attend the remote-access event through the internet must have a computer or smart device with a microphone and speakers, an electronic mail address, and reliable internet service.

{¶ 13} Persons who have registered to testify will be asked to speak beginning shortly after 11:00 a.m., so all who have registered to testify should be prepared to speak at that time. The Commission's staff will contact those persons who are speaking by telephone when it is time for their testimony and connect them to the public hearing.

{¶ 14} Interested persons who merely wish to attend the hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so at <https://bit.ly/23-23-LPH>, entering the password "PUCO" if prompted, or by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering the access code 2337 294 0787. The public hearing will also be live streamed for viewing at www.youtube.com/user/PUCOhio.

Additional information is available by contacting the Commission's Consumer Call Center at 1-800-686-7826.

{¶ 15} Access information for the virtual public hearing will be provided to counsel for the parties at their email address of record. Counsel who will speak during the hearing should join the Webex event through internet access and must have a computer or smart device with a camera, microphone, and speakers; an electronic mail address; and reliable internet service.

{¶ 16} It is, therefore,

{¶ 17} ORDERED, That the timely motions to intervene be granted in accordance with Paragraphs 6 and 7. It is, further,

{¶ 18} ORDERED, That the motion to appear pro hac vice filed by Robert Kelter be granted in accordance with Paragraph 9. It is, further,

{¶ 19} ORDERED, That a virtual public hearing in these matters be held in accordance with Paragraphs 11 through 15. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Greta See

By: Greta See
Attorney Examiner

MJA/dr

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

Case No(s). 23-0023-EL-SSO, 23-0024-EL-AAM

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting the timely motions to intervene in accordance with paragraphs 6 and 7; granting the motion pro hac vice of Robert Kelter; and scheduling a virtual public hearing for May 9, 2023 at 11:00 am, via Webex, in accordance with paragraphs 11-15 electronically filed by Debbie S. Ryan on behalf of Greta N. See, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.