

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE CAPITAL  
EXPENDITURE PROGRAM RIDER OF THE  
EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY D/B/A  
DOMINION ENERGY OHIO.

CASE NO. 23-619-GA-RDR

### ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on July 27, 2023

{¶ 1} The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio (Dominion or the Company) is a natural gas company, as defined in R.C. 4905.03, and a public utility, as defined in R.C. 4905.02. As such, Dominion is subject to the jurisdiction of the 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. 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 issued on February 22, 2023, in the above-noted case, the Commission directed Staff to issue a request for proposal (RFP) for audit services to assist the Commission with the audit of Dominion’s CEP for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. On March 22, 2023, the Commission selected Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. (Blue Ridge) as the auditor and directed Dominion to enter into a contract with Blue Ridge.

{¶ 7} On March 30, 2023, Dominion filed its application for authority to adjust its CEP Rider (Application). With the Application, the Company requests that the Commission approve proposed CEP Rider rates that would be effective with the first billing cycle in October 2023 to recover the costs of CEP investments placed in service and the related CEP regulatory assets for the period January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. Dominion filed various schedules in support of its Application along with the direct testimony of Celia B. Hashlamoun. Dominion proposes the following CEP rider rates:

Rate Schedule	Adjusted Rate
General Sales Service – Residential (GSS-R) and Energy Choice Transportation Service – Residential (ECTS-R)	\$6.97/ month
General Sales Service – Nonresidential (GSS-NR) and Energy Choice Transportation Service – Nonresidential (ECTS-NR)	\$19.97/ month
Large Volume General Sales Service (LVGSS) and Large Volume Energy Choice Transportation Service (LVECTS)	\$79.71/ month
General Transportation Service (GTS) and Transportation Service for Schools (TSS)	\$1,301.41/ month
Daily Transportation Service (DTS)	\$0.0709/ Mcf
Firm Storage Service (FSS)	\$0.2443/ Mcf

{¶ 8} On July 21, 2023, Blue Ridge filed the audit report.

{¶ 9} To facilitate consideration of the audit and application, the attorney examiner finds the following procedural schedule shall be established:

- a. The Staff Report of Investigation (Staff Report) is due by August 4, 2023;
- b. Motions to intervene and comments by Dominion and other parties is due by August 15, 2023;
- c. Dominion shall file a statement indicating whether the issues raised in the comments have been resolved by no later than August 31, 2023.
- d. If necessary, an evidentiary hearing will be conducted on September 6, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., in Hearing Room 11-D, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

{¶ 10} It is, therefore,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the procedural schedule set forth in Paragraph 9 be adopted. It is, further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That an evidentiary hearing, if necessary, be scheduled for September 6, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., as stated in Paragraph 9. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/Greta See

By: Greta See  
Attorney Examiner

PAS/dr

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
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**Case No(s). 23-0619-GA-RDR**

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry establishing the following procedural schedule: Staff Report of Investigation is due by August 4, 2023; motions to intervene/comments due by August 15, 2023; statement by Dominion indicating whether issues raised in comments have been resolved due by August 31, 2023; and an evidentiary hearing, if necessary, is scheduled for September 6, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., in Hearing Room 11-D, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793 electronically filed by Debbie S. Ryan on behalf of Greta N. See, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.