

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE 2018 THROUGH
2022 REVIEW OF THE ALTERNATIVE
ENERGY RIDER OF OHIO POWER
COMPANY.

CASE NO. 23-251-EL-RDR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on December 18, 2023

{¶ 1} Ohio Power Company d/b/a AEP Ohio (AEP Ohio) is an electric distribution utility as defined by 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 provides that an electric distribution utility shall provide customers within its certified territory a standard service offer (SSO) of all competitive retail electric services necessary to maintain essential electric services to customers, including firm supply of electric generation services. 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} R.C. 4928.64(B)(2) establishes benchmarks for an electric distribution utility to acquire a portion of its electricity supply for retail customers in Ohio from renewable energy resources. R.C. 4928.645 provides that an electric distribution utility may use renewable energy credits and solar energy credits to meet its respective renewable energy and solar benchmarks.

{¶ 4} On August 8, 2012, the Commission issued its Opinion and Order in Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO, et al., which approved, with certain modifications, AEP Ohio's application for an ESP, effective with the first billing cycle of September 2012 through May 31, 2015. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 11-346-EL-SSO, et al. (*ESP 2 Case*), Opinion and Order (Aug. 8, 2012). Among other provisions of the ESP, the Commission approved AEP

Ohio's request to establish the Alternative Energy Rider (AER) for the recovery of renewable energy credit expenses, subject to an annual audit. *ESP 2 Case* at 17-18.

{¶ 5} In Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission modified and approved an ESP for AEP Ohio, including approval of the continuation of the AER, for the period of June 1, 2015, through May 31, 2018. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Feb. 25, 2015) at 35.

{¶ 6} In Case No. 16-1852-EL-SSO, et al., the Commission approved, pursuant to a Stipulation, an ESP for AEP Ohio including the continuation of the AER for the period of June 1, 2018, through May 31, 2024. *In re Ohio Power Co.*, Case No. 16-1852-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Apr. 25, 2018) at ¶¶ 110, 270.

{¶ 7} On April 5, 2023, and May 31, 2023, the Commission directed Staff to issue requests for proposals (RFP) for audit services to assist the Commission with the review of the AEP Ohio's AER.

{¶ 8} By Entry issued July 12, 2023, the Commission selected London Economics International (LEI). Pursuant to the RFP, a draft audit report is due to Staff on December 15, 2023, and the final audit report due December 22, 2023.

{¶ 9} On December 15, 2023, AEP Ohio and Staff filed a joint motion for extension of the due date for the audit report. Staff and AEP Ohio state that LEI requires additional time to complete the audit and request that the draft audit report be due to Staff by January 9, 2024, and the final audit report filed with the Commission by January 19, 2024. Further, according to the motion, all parties were notified that additional time was needed to complete the audit.

{¶ 10} The attorney examiner finds the joint motion for extension to be reasonable and should be granted. Accordingly, the draft audit report to be presented to Staff is due by January 9, 2024, and the final audit report to be filed with the Commission by January 19, 2024.

{¶ 11} It is, therefore,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That the joint motion for an extension be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That LEI present the draft audit report to Staff by January 9, 2024, and the final audit report to be filed with the Commission by January 19, 2024. It is, further,

{¶ 14} 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

MJA/mef

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Case No(s). 23-0251-EL-RDR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry granting the motion for an extension of time and accordingly setting the due date for the draft report to January 9, 2024, and the final report to January 19, 2024 electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Greta N. See, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.