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Statewide

OMAEG Files Brief in Appeal of Solar Subsidy Rider (Case No. 2021-1374)

Summary: This week, the OMAEG filed an appellate brief with the Supreme Court of Ohio asserting that the PUCO did not follow the plain language of the law when it implemented the Solar Subsidy Rider charge on a “per account” basis instead of on a “per customer basis,” which has resulted in many non-residential customers being charged for their multiple accounts, meters, and facilities.

The brief also explained that the PUCO incorrectly determined the rider must collect \$20 million from customers annually, regardless of whether the solar facilities were operating and generating output to earn solar energy credits.

Nine Candidates Apply for PUCO Seat

Summary: This week, PUCO Commissioner Dan Conway (Republican) applied for another five-year term on the PUCO beginning April 11, 2022, along with eight other candidates including:

- Dan Bradshaw, sales manager with TSRC Specialty Materials (Republican);
- Alex Chapman, strategy manager for Ridge Creek Global (Republican);
- Chalsie Cloud, realtor (Democrat);
- Michael Hines, compliance officer for the Ohio Department of Transportation (Democrat);
- Richard Rowling of Reynoldsburg (political affiliation unknown);

- Stephen Serraino, general counsel and chief compliance ethics officer for Michigan-based Upper Peninsula Power Company (Independent);
- Dan Wilczynski, process safety manager for Marathon Petroleum Company (Republican); and
- David Yarnell, senior project manager for SAM LLC. (Republican).

On Feb. 4, 2022, the PUCO Nominating Council will interview the selected candidates and then vote for four finalists to be submitted to Gov. Mike DeWine, who then will have 30 days to make his selection or request a new list of finalists. The governor's appointment is subject to Senate approval. The governor stated, "[w]hen I appointed Judge French, I felt it was important at this point for the PUCO to have a chair who did not have the background or connections in the industry" and "[a]s I look at future appointments, I'm going to follow those criteria."

AEP

Evidentiary Hearing Continues in OVEC Coal Subsidy Case (Case Nos. 18-1004-EL-RDR, et al.)

Summary: Today (Friday, Jan. 21) marked the fifth day of the evidentiary regarding AEP's Power Purchase Agreement Rider (Rider PPA), which subsidizes two aging, uneconomic coal plants operated by the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation (OVEC), one of which is in Indiana. The OMAEG's expert witness John Seryak testified before the PUCO that all costs being passed onto customers through Rider PPA should be disallowed because they are unreasonable and result from AEP and OVEC's imprudent business decisions.

AEP Requests Increase to Rider BTCR (Case No. 22-041-EL-RDR)

Summary: AEP requested that the following increases to its non-bypassable Basic Transmission Cost Rider (Rider BTCR) become effective on a bills-rendered basis for the first billing cycle of April 2022.

- **Primary:** 0.04080¢/kWh and \$7.83/kW, a proposed increase from 0.0004584¢/kWh and \$6.59/kW.

- **Secondary:** 0.04222¢/kWh and \$7.39/kW, a proposed increase from 0.0004749¢/kWh and \$6.64/kW.
- **Transmission:** 0.04006¢/kWh and \$8.54/kW, a proposed increase from 0.0004492¢/kWh and \$5.36/kW.
- **Interim Pilot 1CP Primary:** 0.04080¢/kWh and \$9.89/kW, a proposed increase from 0.0004584¢/kWh and \$8.87/kW.
- **Interim Pilot 1CP Secondary:** 0.04222¢/kWh and \$10.23/kW, a proposed increase from 0.0004749¢/kWh and \$9.19/kW.
- **Interim Pilot 1CP Transmission:** 0.04006¢/kWh and \$9.71/kW, a proposed increase from 0.0004492¢/kWh and \$8.70/kW.