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AEP Ohio

Standard Service Offer (SSO) Pricing Increases

Summary: Similar to other Ohio utilities, AEP Ohio's SSO pricing has increased due to recent increases in energy costs. SSO pricing is the price for default service for customers who do not take generation service from a competitive supplier. Customers should check their competitive supplier contracts before switching to the SSO.

Columbia

PUCO Staff Files Report of Investigation (Case Nos. 21-637-GA-AIR, et al.)

Summary: PUCO staff reviewed the application filed by Columbia Gas of Ohio to increase its rates and charges for gas service, and to establish an alternative rate plan and demand-side management program. As part of its application, Columbia requested approval for a rate of return of 7.85% and a revenue requirement of \$1,039,389,000, resulting in a proposed increase to rates of 21.30%.

PUCO staff recommended a lower rate of return in the range of 6.88% to 7.39%, and also made adjustments to Columbia's proposed rate base and test year revenue. As a result, staff recommended a significantly lower revenue requirement in the range of \$885,422,000 to \$907,779,000, which would represent an increase to Columbia's rates in the range of 3.98% to 6.34%.

Objections to the staff report of investigation are due next month.

FirstEnergy

PUCO Continues Hearing Date, Orders FirstEnergy to Provide Discovery Updates (Case No. 17-974-EL-UNC)

Summary: In the proceeding regarding the PUCO's review of FirstEnergy's corporate separation plan, the PUCO delayed the evidentiary hearing to Aug. 22, 2022 at the request of the OMAEG and other parties due to the ongoing status of discovery.

Although the PUCO declined to extend the deadline for issuing additional discovery, the PUCO noted that FirstEnergy is to continue producing thousands of requested documents. To "avoid any unnecessary delays and continue to move toward the expeditious resolution" of the review, the PUCO also directed FirstEnergy to file status reports in May, June, and July – detailing the progress of discovery, including document production. The PUCO did not rule on any of the pending motions to quash subpoenas.

PUCO Denies FirstEnergy Interlocutory Appeal (Case No. 20-1502-EL-UNC)

Summary: The PUCO denied FirstEnergy's interlocutory appeal of the PUCO's March 11, 2022 decision to grant a motion to compel FirstEnergy to produce documents related to FirstEnergy's FERC audit. Although the PUCO had previously denied a motion to compel these documents, the OMAEG and other parties renewed the request following the public release of the FERC audit.

The PUCO noted that FirstEnergy "will be required to produce the responsive materials within 30 days of the March 11, 2022 prehearing conference, unless otherwise ordered."