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## **Statewide**

### **PUCO Administrative Law Judges Strike OMAEG's Testimony (Case No. 21-477-EL-RDR)**

**Summary:** The hearing on the audit of the state's Legacy Generation Resource Riders (LGR Riders) to collect costs from Ohioans related to the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation (OVEC) coal plants concluded this week.

After days of prejudicial rulings against customers, the PUCO's administrative law judges granted the utilities' motion to strike significant portions of the testimony filed by the OMAEG's witness John Seryak of Go Sustainable Energy.

The testimony that Mr. Seryak had prepared pertained to the utilities' prior OVEC riders, through which the utilities have already collected more than \$400 million from customers. He was also prepared to discuss the scandal-ridden House Bill 6, which created the LGR Riders and resulted in the ongoing investigations linked to AEP.

The utilities' witnesses were afforded the opportunity to discuss and spin these same matters, but representatives for energy customers were forbidden from offering contrary testimony.

The OMAEG is considering appealing the rulings.

## **Dominion Gas**

### **Dominion Increases Default Standard Choice Offer (SCO) Rate**

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Dominion increased to \$3.554/Mcf from \$3.154/Mcf, effective Nov. 9, 2023.

*(Continued)*

## FirstEnergy

### **Evidentiary Hearing on FirstEnergy's Fifth Electric Security Plan (ESP V) Begins (Case No. 23-301-EL-SSO)**

**Summary:** As you may recall, FirstEnergy in April 2023 filed an ESP application, proposing new and increased above-market charges totaling nearly \$200 million in the first year of an eight-year ESP term spanning from June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2032. The proposed ESP V also reinstates energy efficiency programs *and* continues discriminatory access to Rider ELR by only allowing access to customers or groups that signed the prior ESP Stipulation eight years ago.

The proposed increase in the Delivery Capital Recovery Rider (DCR) cap would result in an aggregate increase between \$120 and \$168 million over the ESP term, and FirstEnergy seeks to establish several new riders that would recover nearly \$900 million dollars over the ESP term.

FirstEnergy also proposes a voluntary portfolio of energy efficiency and demand response programs directed towards – and paid for by – all customers, which contradicts the PUCO's previous rulings limiting such programs to low-income customers.

The hearing on its ESP V application began this week, with the OMAEG opposing the DCR proposal that would guarantee FirstEnergy an aggregate \$120 million increase even if they fail to provide the reliable service that DCR investments ostensibly ensure. The OMAEG also opposed the rider cost allocations based on stale data from more than 16 years ago.

The hearing will resume next week and is expected to extend through early December.