

Volume 13, Issue 9 • March 1, 2024

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Statewide Cases

Former Speaker Larry Householder Appeals Conviction and 20-Year Sentence

Summary: Householder filed an [appeal](#) arguing that the bribe he received from FirstEnergy was just a campaign contribution, which is protected by the First Amendment. Householder also argued that the jury instructions were defective, his sentencing was incorrect because the \$60 million he received from FirstEnergy was not a bribe, and that the presiding judge was biased against him.

AEP

OMAEG Urges the PUCO to Refund Over-Collection (Case Nos. 24-0042-EL-RDR)

Summary: On January 17, 2024, AEP sought to update its Basic Transmission Cost Rider (BTCR) to increase the rider rates for all customers. OMAEG intervened and submitted comments urging the PUCO to direct AEP to refund the over \$3 million that AEP has over-collected from customers as a result of errors in its BTCR rate calculations.

Centerpoint Energy (formerly Vectren)

Centerpoint Decreases Default SCO Rate

Summary: Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Centerpoint decreased to \$0.27280/ccf from \$0.36640/ccf, effective March 1, 2024.

(continued)

Columbia

Columbia Decreases Default Standard Choice Offer (SCO) Rate

Summary: Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Columbia decreased to \$0.34150/ccf from \$0.42900/ccf, effective February 29, 2024.

FirstEnergy

Stay on the Four House Bill 6 (HB 6) Investigations Lifted (Case Nos. 17-0974-EL-UNC, et al.)

Summary: The stay on the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's (PUCO) HB 6 cases, which has been in place since August 2022, was lifted this week. As such, the investigations into FirstEnergy's corporate separation, HB 6-related spending, Distribution Modernization Rider (DMR), and Delivery Capital Recovery (DCR) will resume. Evidentiary hearings have been scheduled for the corporate separation, DMR, and DCR audits, and the audit of FirstEnergy's HB 6-related spending will now resume. However, today, the Attorney General's office asked that the FirstEnergy executives and Randazzo not be required to participate in discovery or any PUCO hearings to not impede the criminal proceedings.