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Statewide

OCC Board Appoints New Consumers' Counsel

Summary: Following the announced retirement of Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston, the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel board unanimously appointed the current OCC legal director, Maureen Willis, as the next consumers' counsel. She will assume office Oct. 1.

FirstEnergy

Auditor Recommends Eliminating Non-Market-Based Services Rider (Rider NMB) (Case No. 22-391-EL-RDR)

Summary: As you may recall, Rider NMB is a non-bypassable rider through which FirstEnergy collects non-market-based transmission-related costs. The Rider NMB Pilot Program provides participating customers an opportunity to be directly billed for their transmission-related costs by their retail suppliers.

After conducting a review of Rider NMB and the pilot program, the auditor found that Rider NMB does not appear to assign costs consistent with cost causation. Consequently, the auditor recommended *eliminating* Rider NMB for all customers and charging customers directly for their transmission costs through Network Service Peak Load (NSPL) billing.

Alternatively, the auditor recommended eliminating Rider NMB for all medium commercial, large commercial, and industrial customers – and charging those customers directly for their transmission costs. This would result in similar benefits for manufacturers as the pilot program today.

The full audit report can be found [here](#).