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FirstEnergy

FirstEnergy Re-evaluating Whether Customers Funded HB 6 Efforts (Case No. 20-1502-EL-UNC)

Summary: In September 2020, FirstEnergy categorically denied that customers supported HB 6 lobbying efforts through PUCO-approved rates or charges. In a rare twist of events, after the Deferred Prosecution Agreement was filed last week, the FirstEnergy utilities are now rethinking whether their initial position and response filed with the PUCO was accurate.

In a recent filing, the FirstEnergy utilities stated that they are “in the process of re-evaluating their Sept. 30, 2020 response to the commission’s directive to show cause demonstrating that the costs of any political or charitable spending in support of Am. Sub. HB 6, or the subsequent referendum effort, were not included, directly or indirectly, in any rates or charges paid by ratepayers in this state.”

The FirstEnergy utilities further stated that in light of information made public through FirstEnergy Corp.’s Deferred Prosecution Agreement with the federal government, it is necessary for the FirstEnergy utilities to supplement their discovery responses to parties in the HB 6 spending case before the PUCO.

AEP

AEP Proposes Decrease to Rider EDR (Case No. 21-831-EL-RDR)

Summary: AEP proposed decreasing its non-bypassable Economic Development Cost Recovery Rider (Rider EDR) rate from 2.708392% of customers’ distribution charges to 2.03027% of customers’ distribution charges. If approved, the new Rider EDR rate will become effective with the first billing cycle of October 2021.