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### **Statewide**

#### **State of Ohio Indicts Former House Speaker Larry Householder on State Criminal Charges for His Role in the House Bill 6 (HB 6) Bribery Scheme (Case No. CR-24-690479-A)**

**Summary:** After being sentenced to twenty years in federal prison for accepting \$60 million in bribes in exchange for pushing through the corrupt HB 6 on behalf of FirstEnergy, former Speaker Householder was indicted on an additional ten state felony charges. These charges could permanently bar Householder from public office if he is convicted. His arraignment is scheduled for April 12, 2024.

#### **Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) Approves Increase to FirstEnergy's Transmission Rider Rates (Case No. 24-22-EL-RDR)**

**Summary:** The PUCO approved FirstEnergy's updated Rider NMB rates subject to Staff's modifications, which will reduce the revenue collected by FirstEnergy by approximately \$40.1 million for the upcoming annual rate period. New rates will become effective April 1, 2024.

In its order approving FirstEnergy's updated transmission rider rates, the PUCO responded to comments criticizing rising transmission costs by indicating that this case was not the proper forum for raising these concerns. While the PUCO did not specifically state that FERC was the proper forum for these concerns, it did state that it "will continue to thoroughly engage with FERC as to supplemental transmission projects."

### **AEP**

#### **PUCO Approves AEP Fifth Electric Security (ESP V) Settlement (Case Nos. 23-23-EL-SSO, et al.)**

(Continued)

**Summary:** In addition to significantly reducing the over \$4 billion in new and increased charges to customers that AEP initially proposed, the settlement approved by the PUCO expands participation for both the BPCR Pilot and the IRP-E Programs. OMAEG's successful negotiations ensured continued Pilot and IRP-E participation for members who participated in the programs during ESP IV or under a reasonable arrangement. Eligible members will need to provide written notice to AEP by July 1, 2024 of their election to participate in the respective programs for the entire ESP term (Pilot participants will have an opt-out option in the ESP's second year and can be replaced by a different OMAEG member).

Additionally, the settlement significantly reduces the amounts that AEP can recover through various riders (i.e., Distribution Investment Rider caps decreased to \$1.022 billion from \$2.712 billion and Enhanced Service Reliability Rider caps decreased to \$244 million from \$539 million), removes several costly programs and new riders, and decreases AEP's return on equity to 9.70% from 10.65%.

The PUCO's single modification to the settlement directed that AEP shareholders, rather than AEP customers, fund the low-income bill assistance program in the amount of \$400,000 annually.

## **AES**

### **AES Updates Riders (Case Nos. 89-6004-EL-TRF, et al.)**

**Summary:** Effective April 1, 2024, the following riders have been adjusted for all non-residential customer classes:

- The Infrastructure Investment Rider will increase to 8.3150% of base distribution charges from 4.8660% of base distribution charges; and
- The Distribution Investment Rider will increase to 10.5778% of base distribution charges from 8.6903% of base distribution charge

### **Centerpoint Energy (formerly Vectren)**

#### **Centerpoint Increases Default SCO Rate**

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Centerpoint increased to \$0.2985/ccf from \$0.27280/ccf, effective April 1, 2024.

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### Columbia

#### **Columbia Decreases Default Standard Choice Offer (SCO) Rate**

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Columbia decreased to \$0.3235/ccf from \$0.34150/ccf, effective April 1, 2024.

### Duke

#### **Duke Increases Default SSO Rate**

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Duke increased to \$0.0982/kWh from \$0.0971/kWh, effective April 1, 2024.

### FirstEnergy

#### **The FirstEnergy Utilities Increase Delivery Capital Recovery Rider (Rider DCR) Rates (Case Nos. 89-6001-EL-TRF, et al.)**

**Summary:** Effective June 1, 2024, the Rider DCR rates will be adjusted as follows:

- Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company will decrease Rider DCR to \$1.2268/kW from \$1.2351/kW for General Service – Primary (GP), and to \$4.6974/kW from \$5.8206/kW for General Service – Secondary (GS);
- Ohio Edison will increase Rider DCR to \$2.4416/kW from \$2.4160/kW for GP, and to \$3.9782/kW from \$3.4162/kW for GS; and
- Toledo Edison will decrease Rider DCR to \$0.9447/kW from \$0.9554/kW for GP, and to \$2.7292/kW from \$3.6855/kW for GS.

#### **The FirstEnergy Utilities Increase Default Standard Service Offer (SSO) Rates**

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rates for the three FirstEnergy utilities changed as follows: the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company's SSO rate increased to \$0.1108/kWh from \$0.0998/kWh; Ohio Edison's SSO rate increased to \$0.1091/kWh from \$0.1011/kWh; and Toledo Edison's SSO rate increased to \$0.1100/kWh from \$0.1045/kWh, effective April 1, 2024.