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Statewide

Former Republican Party Chairman Matthew Borges Appeals Conviction

Summary: After being sentenced to five years in prison for his role in what has been called “the largest bribery, money laundering scheme ever perpetrated against the people of the state of Ohio,” Borges filed an appeal alleging numerous errors and prosecutorial overreach, claiming that the jury was “being fed a false narrative” and that the judge’s actions were prejudicial. Oral arguments were recently held, where Borges asserted that the government did not claim, much less prove, that Borges’ contacts with the Ohio Attorney General (AG) exceeded the normal activities of a lobbyist, and that the State characterizing his lobbying activity as “pressuring” the AG was “pure drivel.”

AEP

OMAEG Leads Win for Customer Service Reliability (Case No. 20-1111-EL-ESS)

Summary: Following the mass, statewide outages in June 2022 that left as many as 200,000 residents and businesses without power, OMAEG intervened in AEP’s pending service reliability proceeding where AEP proposed to *lower* its reliability standards. The only commercial and industrial customer group to participate in this case, OMAEG took the lead in fighting for improved reliability metrics and holding AEP accountable for outages on its system. Under the settlement approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, AEP will have more stringent reliability standards, which will improve service reliability and ensure that the impact and duration of electric outages for AEP’s customers are minimized. The settlement also requires AEP to file a new service reliability standards case by June 1, 2029 so stakeholders can review AEP’s performance in meeting the improved reliability standards.

(Continued)

**OMAEG Opposes AEP's Unreasonable Data Center Tariffs
(Case No. 24-508-EL-ATA)**

Summary: OMAEG filed [reply comments](#) opposing AEP's proposed unlawful, unreasonable, and discriminatory data center tariffs. OMAEG reiterated that AEP lacks the authority to issue these tariffs, which threaten to not only negatively impact Ohio's economic development, but would set a dangerous precedent allowing distribution utilities to target certain kinds of customers for unreasonably high rates or fees. OMAEG also refuted assertions that data centers do not provide significant economic benefits to communities and the State.

AEP Increases Default SSO Rate

Summary: Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for AEP increased to \$0.0770/kWh from \$0.0768/kWh, effective July 1, 2024.

Centerpoint Energy (formerly Vectren)

Centerpoint Increases Default Standard Choice Offer (SCO) Rate

Summary: Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Centerpoint increased to \$0.4112/ccf from \$0.3968/ccf, effective July 1, 2024.

FirstEnergy

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 increased as follows: the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company's SSO rate increased to \$0.0995/kWh from \$0.0945/kWh; Ohio Edison's SSO rate increased to \$0.0946/kWh from \$0.0929/kWh; and Toledo Edison's SSO rate increased to \$0.0965/kWh from \$0.0942/kWh, effective July 1, 2024.