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### **CenterPoint Energy (formerly Vectren)**

#### **CenterPoint Increases Default SCO Rate**

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for CenterPoint increased to \$0.4066/ccf from \$0.3365/ccf, effective October 1, 2024.

### **Columbia**

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

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Columbia increased to \$0.4245/ccf from \$0.3590/ccf, effective October 1, 2024.

### **Duke**

#### **Duke Increases Default SCO Rate**

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Duke increased to \$0.0818/kWh from \$0.0801/kWh, effective October 1, 2024.

(Continued)

## FirstEnergy

### **Audit Report Filed on FirstEnergy's Political and Charitable Spending Related to House Bill 6 (HB 6) (Case No. 20-1502-EL-UNC)**

**Summary:** As you may recall, after FirstEnergy's role in the largest bribery scheme in the history of Ohio was revealed, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) initiated an audit to review FirstEnergy's political and charitable spending related to HB 6 and the subsequent referendum effort. The PUCO also directed FirstEnergy to demonstrate that the costs of these activities were not included in any rates or charges paid by customers.

Over four years later, the auditor filed a report determining that \$4,866,233 of the costs associated with the passage of HB 6 and subsequent anti-referendum efforts were indirectly paid for by customers of the FirstEnergy Utilities (\$4,333,333 of which was used to bribe former PUCO Chairman Randazzo). Astonishingly, the report claims that these payments *only* resulted in slightly inflated pole attachment rates totaling \$14,534—a conclusion based on the findings of a *different* auditor in a different case. Notably, the auditor in this case was not provided access to two internal investigations or the depositions of key FirstEnergy executives. In addition to finding pole attachment rates were inflated, the report further found that FirstEnergy did not consider how the costs associated with internal lobbyists and outside vendors directly linked to HB 6-related efforts might have impacted customer rates. Most egregiously, the auditor failed to recommend any refunds beyond the meager amounts already recommended in a separate audit.

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

**Summary:** Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rates for the three FirstEnergy utilities decreased as follows: the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company's SSO rate decreased to \$0.0856/kWh from \$0.0874/kWh; Ohio Edison's SSO rate decreased to \$0.0818/kWh from \$0.0824/kWh; and Toledo Edison's SSO rate decreased to \$0.0825/kWh from \$0.0844/kWh, effective October 1, 2024.