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Statewide

PUCO Schedules Briefing on August 6, 2024 Outages

Summary: The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) will hold a public briefing regarding the mass electric power outages that left more than 300,000 homes and businesses without power in the wake of severe storms earlier this month. The briefing will be held at the PUCO's offices (180 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215, Hearing Room 11-B) on September

AEP

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

Summary: This week, OMAEG filed the testimonies of John Seryak and Ryan Schuessler of Go Sustainable Energy. Mr. Seryak's testimony urges the PUCO to reject AEP's unsubstantiated proposed data center and mobile data center tariffs, which are discriminatory, unjust, unreasonable, and anti-competitive. In addition to (1) creating two new classes of customers without first analyzing the actual cost to serve those customers; (2) singling out data center customers to pay unreasonably high demand charges (90% or 95% of their contract capacity as opposed to the 60% that would apply under the current tariffs); and (3) subjecting those customers to mandatory, involuntary, and uncompensated interruption, Mr. Seryak testifies about AEP's failure to consider reasonable alternatives and to provide sufficient evidence to support AEP's claims that there is a transmission constraint in Central Ohio.

Mr. Schuessler's testimony explains how the proposed tariffs are unreasonable because (1) AEP used speculative and unsubstantiated load forecasts that have not been validated by PJM; (2) the tariffs would worsen transmission system reliability; and (3) the mobile data center tariff improperly assumes, without evidence, that mobile data centers pose unique issues to AEP's system.

(Continued)

**AEP Increases Distribution Investment Rider
(Case No. 89-6007-EL-TRF)**

Summary: Effective September 1, 2024, DIR will decrease to 21.11760% of a customer's distribution charges from 20.49112% of a customer's distribution charges.

Columbia

Columbia Increases Default Standard Choice Offer (SCO) Rate

Summary: Based on recent competitive auctions, the default service rate for Columbia increased to \$0.3590/ccf from \$0.3567/ccf, effective August 28, 2024.

FirstEnergy

FirstEnergy Implements New Distribution Capital Recovery (DCR) Rider Rate Design

(Case No. 23-301-EL-SSO)

Summary: In approving FirstEnergy's Fifth Electric Security Plan (ESP V), the PUCO ordered FirstEnergy to modify Rider DCR's rate design from a per kW billing demand charge to a percentage of base distribution charge. However, FirstEnergy was unable to implement the new rate design by June 1, 2024 (when ESP V went into effect). As a result, Rider DCR was charged on a per kW billing demand basis from June 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024. The resulting difference between what FirstEnergy actually collected during that period and what it would have collected had the new rate design been in effect will be reconciled going forward.