

# THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROCUREMENT  
OF STANDARD SERVICE OFFER  
GENERATION FOR CUSTOMERS OF DUKE  
ENERGY OHIO, INC.

CASE NO. 18-6000-EL-UNC

## FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on May 17, 2023

### I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission directs Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. to modify its standard service offer procurement auction schedule in the manner set forth in its filing.

### II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) qualifies as an electric utility as defined by R.C. 4928.01(A)(11) and as an electric distribution utility (EDU) as defined by R.C. 4928.01(A)(6).

{¶ 3} R.C. 4928.141 provides that electric utilities shall provide consumers a standard service offer (SSO) of all competitive retail electric services in accordance with R.C. 4928.142 or 4928.143. The SSO functions to make generation supply available to customers that are not receiving this supply from a competitive retail electric services provider and is sometimes referred to as default supply. The Commission approved Duke's most recent electric security plan (ESP), which implemented a competitive auction-based SSO format, as well as a competitive bid procurement process for Duke's auctions to procure generation supply for Duke's customers for a certain period of time. *In re Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 17-1263-EL-SSO, et al., Opinion and Order (Dec. 19, 2018).

{¶ 4} Since the approval of Duke's ESP, Duke's auction schedule has been modified due to delays in the timing of PJM Interconnection, LLC's (PJM) base residual auction (BRA). *In re the Procurement of Standard Service Offer Generation Customers of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.*, Case No. 18-6000-EL-UNC (*Procurement Case*), Finding and Orders (Aug. 26, 2020), (June 16, 2021), (Jan. 26, 2022), and (Aug. 24, 2022).

{¶ 5} On February 7, 2023, Duke filed a motion to amend the SSO auction for February 2023, which Duke avers was set to procure 80 tranches for the 2023/2024 delivery year and 30 tranches for the 2024/2025 delivery year. Duke asserted that, at the time of filing, the applicable PJM capacity rate for the 2024/2025 delivery year was still unknown; therefore, to avoid substantial uncertainty and confusion among bidders, Duke requested that the Commission approve a delay in the auction for the 2024/2025 delivery year product until after such time as the relevant BRA results were available.

{¶ 6} On February 10, 2023, the attorney examiner granted Duke's motion, directing that the auction for the 12-month product for delivery year 2023/2024 will proceed as scheduled on February 21, 2023, but the auction for the 24-month product for the 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 delivery years will be delayed to a later time. In a Finding and Order issued on February 22, 2023, the Commission affirmed the attorney examiner's directive.

{¶ 7} On April 20, 2023, Duke filed a motion to amend the SSO auction and requested expedited treatment. In its motion, Duke asserts that, on February 27, 2023, PJM announced that it had secured adequate resources to meet demand for the 2024/2025 delivery year and that prices were down in most areas, resulting in lower prices than in the preceding delivery year. Duke notes that it still has 30 tranches remaining for the 2024/2025 delivery year, the auction for which was delayed as noted above. Accordingly, after consulting its auction manager, Duke requests to hold an additional auction for the 2024/2025 delivery year, 30-tranche product in July 2023.

{¶ 8} No memorandum contra was filed regarding this motion.

{¶ 9} Upon review, we find Duke's proposal to modify its SSO auction schedule to include an additional auction in July 2023 reasonable; therefore, we direct Duke to adjust its SSO auction schedule in accordance with Duke's motion.

**III. ORDER**

{¶ 10} It is, therefore,

{¶ 11} ORDERED, That the Duke SSO auction schedule be modified in a manner consistent with this Order. It is further,

{¶ 12} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record in this case.

**COMMISSIONERS:**

*Approving:*

Jenifer French, Chair  
Daniel R. Conway  
Lawrence K. Friedeman  
Dennis P. Deters  
John D. Williams

MJS/dmh

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**in**

**Case No(s). 18-6000-EL-UNC**

Summary: Finding & Order directing Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. to modify its standard service offer procurement auction schedule in the manner set forth in its filing. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.