# Ohio Electric Security Plan (ESP) V Regulatory Filing

Filed 4/5/23 (Case Record: 23-0301-EL-SSO)



## **Background**

- Utilities are required to file applications to establish either an ESP or a Market Rate Offer to provide customers default generation service, also known as a Standard Service Offer
- ESPs may include provisions regarding distribution infrastructure, grid modernization, economic development and job retention initiatives, and energy efficiency programs
- FE's Ohio utilities currently operate under ESP IV, which includes riders that provide the opportunity to recover the costs of capital investments through Rider DCR and Rider AMI (grid modernization investments)

## **Filing Summary**

- · Focus on reliability, affordability, and stewardship
- Propose to maintain an 8-year term; request approval to be effective June 1, 2024
- Propose to maintain existing auction process with a few changes designed to enhance customer affordability and mitigate risk for SSO suppliers
- Initial estimated bill impacts of 2.1% and average annual bill impact of 0.5% (for a residential customer using 1,000 kWh)

# **Key Proposals**

#### **Investments**

- Continue Rider DCR and propose an increase to aggregate annual revenues caps of \$15M to \$21M (from \$15M currently) to align with historical levels and expected investment plans
  - Increase in caps tied to reliability performance
- Continue Rider AMI for recovery of approved grid modernization programs (Grid Mod I)
  - Grid Mod II proposal, filed July 2022, will be reviewed separately from ESP V
- Any investments rolled into base rates at the next Base Rate Case will be removed from the riders

### **Operational**

- Continue existing riders including those related to purchased power, transmission, and uncollectibles
- New storm rider to recover balance over 5 years (current balance at filing ~\$126M) and defer and recover/return storm O&M below/above current baseline going forward
- New vegetation management rider to recover incremental O&M costs above baseline (currently \$30M) and include an enhanced program to accelerate removal of off-Right Of Way trees and brush

#### **Customer**

- New 4-year utility-offered energy efficiency programs (~\$72M per year) with amortized cost recovery
- Stewardship commitments not to be recovered from customers (~\$52M over 8 years):
  - Low-income bill payment assistance and a low-income senior citizen discount
  - Support for EV customer experience (residential, commercial, and fleets)

