DUKE SEEKS 38% INCREASE IN DISTRIBUTION CHARGES

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel
"Your Residential Utility Consumer Advocate"
www.occ.ohio.gov

CONSUMER ALERT

Duke Energy Ohio is asking the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to increase electric distribution charges for consumers.

Under Duke's proposal, a typical consumer's distribution charge would increase by 38% – nearly $18 more per month. If approved, the new electric distribution rates will take effect in 2027.

This request comes on top of recent Duke-related increases to consumers, including nearly **$400 million** in charges approved through Duke's 2025 Electric Security Plan.

At the same time, Duke consumers have seen the standard offer price for electricity supply rise for Duke consumers by **about 27%** in the past year, adding further pressure on household budgets.

What Part of Your Bill Would Increase?

Duke's proposal affects the distribution (delivery) portion of your electric bill — the part you pay regardless of who supplies your electricity.

Other charges on your bill include:

- **Supply charges** – the cost of electricity itself
- **Transmission charges** – the cost to move electricity across high-voltage lines

OCC is Already on the Case

The Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC)—the state's advocate for residential utility consumers—has formally intervened to represent Duke's approximately 500,000 residential customers.

OCC experts are reviewing Duke's proposal and will present evidence focused on protecting affordability for the utility's Southwest Ohio consumers.



Many Ohio families are struggling with rising energy costs. OCC will urge the PUCO to consider the affordability impact of higher electric bills on consumers.

Make Your Voice Heard at the PUCO:

Consumer comments and testimony become part of the official case record and must be considered by the PUCO Commissioners.

Speak at a Public Hearing: Consumers may speak directly to PUCO Commissioners at local public hearings.

***Hearing dates have not yet been scheduled** and will be posted on this fact sheet and online as soon as they are announced.*

Tips for speaking at a hearing: https://bit.ly/occ-make-your-voice-heard.

Submit a Comment Online: File a public comment at: https://dis.puc.state.oh.us/PublicCommentEfiling.aspx?CaseNo=26-0132.

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Send a Letter: Reference Duke Energy Ohio Case No. 26-132-EL-AIR

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St., 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Virtual Hearing (Accessibility Matters):
OCC will ask the PUCO to hold a virtual public hearing so consumers can participate remotely. Consumers may also request a virtual hearing.

Want to Know More?

OCC's Motion to Intervene: https://dis.puc.state.oh.us/DocumentRecord.aspx?DocID=da3f040e-70e6-488f-bdce-3332bbcef7b9

PUCO Case Docket: https://dis.puc.state.oh.us/CaseRecord.aspx?CaseNo=26-0132-EL-AIR

Questions?

This Consumer Alert will be updated as hearings and major case developments occur.

Contact your consumer advocate, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel: 1-877-742-5622 or occ@occ.ohio.gov.