Minutes of the Commission Meeting
PowerForward: Ratemaking and Regulation
Week 1, Day 1
March 6, 2018 – 8:30 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Present:
Asim Z. Haque, Chairman
M. Beth Trombold, Commissioner
Thomas W. Johnson, Commissioner
Lawrence K. Friedeman, Commissioner
Daniel R. Conway, Commissioner
Howard Petricoff, Chief Analyst
Krystina Schaefer, Grid Modernization & Security Section, Rates and Analysis Department
Hisham Choueiki, Director, Office of the Federal Energy Advocate
Mahila Christopher, Office of the Federal Energy Advocate

The Commission met for the purpose of the third phase of PowerForward.

The meeting began at 8:30 a.m. in Hearing Room 11-B at the offices of the Commission.

1. Opening Remarks
   Chairman Haque and Vice Chair Trombold gave opening remarks.

2. Advancing the Power System to Enhance the Customer Experience
   David Owens, Chief Architect, Electric Grid Transformation, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
   Mr. Owens spoke about the need for a holistic approach to grid modernization, and advocated for new ways of navigating traditional schools of thought.

   Rodger Smith, Senior Vice President and General Manager, Oracle Utilities
   Mr. Smith spoke about the need to keep up with the pace of technological advancement and that all grid modernization improvements require data.

   Sayun Sukduang, President and Chief Executive Officer, ENGIE Resources
   Mr. Sukduang focused his presentation on the industry’s need to move away from technical jargon and stressed that new infrastructure is not always the correct response to increased demand.
3. Distribution System Planning: Utility Perspectives

*Tom Kirkpatrick, Vice President, Customer, Marketing & Distribution Services, AEP*
Mr. Kirkpatrick outlined AEP’s relative position in the grid modernization arena and opined on the importance of monitoring clusters of load.

*Kevin L. Hall, Director, Transmission & Distribution Investments, AES US Utilities*
Mr. Hall shared the steps necessary to accomplish modernization goals.

*Tom Pryatel, Director, Energy Delivery Operations Services, FirstEnergy*
Mr. Pryatel opined that utility companies are in a good position to manage DERs and stressed the importance of building back-office infrastructure.

*Lee Mazzocchi, Senior Vice President, Grid Solutions, Duke Energy*
Mr. Mazzocchi spoke about changing customer roles and the need to adapt to meet consumer demands.

The meeting took a break at 1:00 p.m. and resumed at 2:00 p.m.

4. Distribution System Planning: Integrating Resources

*Curt Volkmann, President, New Energy Advisors, LLC*
Mr. Volkmann outlined steps necessary for Ohio’s dive into grid modernization, including the formation of a working group to explore the details of DER integration.

*Jeff Smith, Sr. Program Manager, Power System Studies, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI)*
Mr. Smith advocated for DER implementation being a part of the distribution planning process.

*Samir Succar, Senior Manager, ICF*
Mr. Succar outlined a potential future where distribution planning focused on outcomes instead of inputs.

5. Distribution System Planning: Key Considerations

*Alan Cooke, Research Economist, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)*
Mr. Cooke spoke on the importance of increased transparency in the distribution planning process.

*Jereme Kent, General Manager & Chief Executive Officer, One Energy Enterprises LLC*
Mr. Kent advocated for the loosening of industry technical standards as well as distribution planning that would allow more stakeholders to participate.
Aaron Snyder, Director, Grid Technology Consulting, EnerNex
Mr. Snyder spoke to the importance preparing for unknowns in distribution planning.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.

M. Beth Trombolo  Joanna Mangee
Chair         Secretary