

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1230

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
Application by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for)	ORDER GRANTING
Approval of Demand-Side Management and)	EXTENSIONS OF TIME AND
Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Rider Pursuant)	TAKING UNDER ADVISEMENT
to N.C. Gen. Stat. §62-133.9 and Commission)	MOTION FOR REMOTE
Rule R8-69)	TESTIMONY

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On February 25, 2020, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC or Company), filed its application in the above-captioned docket for approval of its demand-side management and energy efficiency (DSM/EE) cost recovery rider pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.9 and Rule R8-69.

On March 17, 2020, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Hearing, Requiring Filing of Testimony, Establishing Discovery Guidelines, and Requiring Public Notice (Scheduling Order). Among other things, the Scheduling Order required the Public Staff and intervenors to file expert witness testimony on or before May 18, 2020, allowed DEC to file rebuttal testimony on or before May 28, 2020, and scheduled a hearing before the Commission on June 9, 2020.

On April 17, 2020, the North Carolina Justice Center, the North Carolina Housing Coalition, and the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (collectively, Movants), filed a petition to intervene in the docket, which was granted by the Commission on April 21, 2020.

On May 11, 2020, DEC filed supplemental testimony and exhibits making changes in DEC's requested DSM/EE rates based on interim results of the Public Staff's investigation of program costs, and the Company's identification of additional necessary adjustments.

On May 14, 2020, Movants filed a motion to extend the times to file direct and rebuttal testimony, and to participate remotely in the hearing in this docket. In summary, Movants stated that an extension of five days would allow Movants sufficient time to analyze the supplemental testimony and exhibits by DEC, review recently produced responses to data requests, and finalize and file their testimony. Therefore, Movants requested an extension of the deadline to file intervenor testimony to May 22, 2020, and a corresponding extension of the time for DEC to file rebuttal testimony to June 1, 2020.

In addition, Movants discussed in detail the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Cooper's Executive Orders in response to the pandemic, and the North Carolina Supreme Court's orders requiring that most judicial proceedings be delayed or handled using "remote audio and video transmissions, notwithstanding any other provision of law." Movants further stated that their witness is from outside North Carolina and would be required to travel extensively in order to appear in person, and that with all the persons who would be involved in the hearing there would necessarily be more than ten individuals in the hearing room for any in-person hearing in this docket. As a result, Movants stated that in the interest of public health and safety they request that the attorneys and witnesses involved in this proceeding be allowed to appear remotely with audio or video technology at the June 9, 2020 hearing. Finally, Movants stated that they have contacted counsel for all parties to the docket and that DEC and the Public Staff do not object to the request for an extension of time, but take no position on the request to hold a virtual hearing. Movants stated that at the time of filing their motion no other party had raised an objection to either request.

Based on Movants' motion and the record, the Presiding Commission finds good cause to grant Movants, the Public Staff and all intervenors an extension of time to and including May 22, 2020, to file direct testimony in this docket, and to grant DEC an extension of time to and including June 1, 2020, to file rebuttal testimony.

With respect to Movants' motion to allow the parties' counsel and witnesses to appear remotely for the hearing, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to take said motion under advisement for a later decision.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 18th day of May, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janice H. Fulmore".

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk