

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1213  
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1214  
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1187  
DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1219

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1213

In the Matter of  
Petition of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for  
Approval of Prepaid Advantage Program  
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1214

In the Matter of  
Application by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for  
Adjustment of Rates and Charges Applicable to  
Electric Utility Service in  
North Carolina

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1187

In the Matter of  
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for an  
Accounting Order to Defer Incremental Storm  
Damage Expenses Incurred as a Result of  
Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Winter  
Storm Diego

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1219

In the Matter of  
Application by Duke Energy Progress, LLC, for  
Adjustment of Rates and Charges Applicable to  
Electric Utility Service in  
North Carolina

ORDER REQUIRING PARTIES TO  
FILE A MOTION FOR LEAVE  
BEFORE FILING ADDITIONAL  
TESTIMONY

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONERS: On September 30, 2019, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC), filed an application for a general rate case in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1214 (Sub 1214).

On October 30, 2019, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP), filed an application for a general rate case in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1219 (Sub 1219).

The expert witness hearing in Sub 1214 was initially scheduled to begin on March 23, 2020. The expert witness hearing in Sub 1219 was initially scheduled to begin on May 4, 2020. On March 10, 2020, Governor Roy Cooper issued Executive Order No. 116 declaring a State of Emergency because of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the initial expert witness hearings in Subs 1214 and 1219 (collectively, rate case dockets), were postponed. In subsequent orders the Commission addressed several aspects of procedure in the rate case dockets as more has become known about the potential for scheduling in-person hearings. The initial filings of direct and rebuttal testimony were completed in Sub 1214 on March 4, 2020, and in Sub 1219 on May 4, 2020. Since that time, several parties have filed supplemental testimony in these dockets.

On July 9, 2020, the Commission issued an Order Accepting Recommended Consolidated Issues for Remote Expert Witness Hearing and Postponing Separate Issue Hearings (Consolidated Hearing Order). The Consolidated Hearing Order identified the topics to be addressed by expert witness testimony in a consolidated hearing in the rate case dockets to be held remotely beginning on July 27, 2020, but postponed separate hearings on the separate topics in DEC's and DEP's applications until a date certain to be set by subsequent order.

The pandemic, with its limitations on large gatherings, has visited havoc on the Commission's efforts to hold expert witness hearings, substantially extending the planned dates for many of the Commission's hearings. Understandably, the parties to these proceedings have sought to cover the gap from the filing of their initial direct and rebuttal testimony until the hearing date by filing supplemental testimony. The Presiding Commissioners are not averse to the filing of supplemental testimony in these circumstances, and acknowledge that the Commission's practice has been to allow such filings without the need for obtaining leave from the Commission. Nevertheless, as in numerous other arenas, the pandemic has created the need for a change, at least in these complex rate case dockets. As a result, the Presiding Commissioners find good cause to direct that from the date of this Order a party shall not file additional testimony in these dockets unless the party first files a motion for leave to do so, and the Commission issues an order granting such leave.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 22nd day of July, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberley A. Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk