# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1228

#### BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC	) ORDER SCHEDULING HEARING,
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and	) REQUIRING FILING OF TESTIMONY
Commission Rule R8-55 Relating to Fuel	) ESTABLISHING DISCOVERY
and Fuel-Related Charge Adjustments for	) GUIDELINES, AND REQUIRING
Electric Utilities	) PUBLIC NOTICE

BY THE COMMISSION: North Carolina General Statute Section 62-133.2 provides for annual fuel charge adjustment proceedings for electric utilities engaged in the generation or production of electricity by fossil or nuclear fuels. Commission Rule R8-55 provides that the fuel charge adjustment proceeding for Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC or Applicant), will be held the first Tuesday of June each year and that DEC shall file its direct testimony and exhibits and shall publish notice prior to the hearing.

On February 25, 2020, DEC filed an application in the above-captioned proceeding. The Commission is of the opinion that good cause exists to schedule a hearing on the application.

The guidelines regarding discovery in this docket, subject to modification for good cause shown, are as follows:

- 1. Any deposition which a party desires to take shall be taken before the deadline for filing of Public Staff and intervenor testimony. Notice of deposition shall be served on all parties at least seven days prior to the taking of the deposition. Notice of deposition and all other discovery notices, requests and motions shall be served on the appropriate parties by hand delivery or facsimile, or by electronic delivery if the receiving party has agreed to receipt by electronic delivery.
- 2. Any motion for subpoena of a witness to appear at the evidentiary hearing shall be filed with the Commission before the deadline for filing of Public Staff and intervenor testimony, shall be served by hand delivery or facsimile to the person sought to be subpoenaed at or before the time of filing with the Commission, and shall make a reasonable showing that the evidence of such person will be material and relevant to an issue in the proceeding. See N.C.G.S. § 62-62. Unless an objection is filed, the Chief Clerk shall issue the requested subpoena 24 hours after such motion is filed.
- 3. Formal discovery requests related to the application and the Applicant's prefiled direct testimony shall be served on the Applicant not later than fourteen days prior

to the deadline for filing of Public Staff and intervenor testimony. The party served shall have up to ten calendar days to file with the Commission objections to the discovery requests on an item-by-item basis, but in no event shall objections be filed later than ten days prior to the deadline for filing of Public Staff and intervenor testimony.

- 4. Formal discovery requests of the Public Staff or intervenors shall be served not later than three days after such testimony is filed. The party served shall have up to three calendar days to file with the Commission objections to the discovery requests on an item-by-item basis, but in no event shall objections be filed later than five days after that party's testimony was filed.
- 5. Formal discovery requests related to the Applicant's prefiled rebuttal testimony shall be served on the Applicant not later than two days after such testimony is filed. The party served shall have up to two calendar days to file with the Commission objections to the discovery requests on an item-by-item basis, but in no event shall objections be filed later than three days after the rebuttal testimony was filed. Discovery related to rebuttal testimony shall be limited to new material introduced in such rebuttal testimony and will be carefully scrutinized upon objection that such discovery should have been sought during the initial period of discovery from the Applicant.
- 6. Discovery requests need not be filed with the Commission when served; however, any party filing objections shall attach a copy of the relevant discovery request to the objections. Each discovery request, or part thereof, to which no objection is filed shall be answered by the time objections are due, subject to other agreement of the affected parties or other order of the Commission. Upon the filing of objections, the party seeking discovery shall have two days to file a motion to compel with the Commission, and the party objecting to discovery shall have one day thereafter to file a response. All objections, motions to compel, and responses shall be served on the other affected party at or before the time of filing with the Commission.
- 7. A party shall not be granted an extension of time to pursue discovery because of that party's late intervention or other delay in initiating discovery.

The Commission recognizes that in the past most discovery has been conducted in an informal manner without the need for Commission involvement or enforcement, and that such has been generally successful. The above guidelines are without prejudice to the parties conducting informal discovery or exchanging information by agreement at any time with the understanding that such will not be enforceable by the Commission if outside the guidelines.

## IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That a public hearing shall be, and is hereby, scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, for the purpose of considering the annual fuel charge adjustment proceeding for DEC;

- 2. That any person having an interest in this proceeding may file a petition to intervene stating such interest on or before Monday, May 18, 2020;
- 3. That the direct testimony and exhibits of the Public Staff and other intervenors shall be filed on or before Monday, May 18, 2020;
- 4. That DEC may file rebuttal testimony and exhibits no later than Thursday, May 28, 2020;
- 5. That DEC shall publish the Public Notice attached hereto as Appendix A in a newspaper or newspapers having general circulation in its service area once a week for two successive weeks beginning at least 45 days prior to the hearing;
- 6. That DEC shall file affidavits of publication on or before the date of the hearing; and
- 7. That the parties shall comply with the discovery guidelines established herein.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 17th day of March, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Deputy Clerk

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## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1228

### BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC	)	
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and	)	PUBLIC NOTICE
Commission Rule R8-55 Relating to Fuel	)	
and Fuel-Related Charge Adjustments for	)	
Electric Utilities	)	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has scheduled a public hearing on an annual fuel and fuel-related charge adjustment proceeding for Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC). The public hearing has been scheduled to begin Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. The proceeding is being held pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and Commission Rule R8-55 for the purpose of determining whether an increment or decrement rider is required in order to reflect changes in fuel and fuel-related costs over or under the base fuel rate established for DEC in its last general rate case. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g).

DEC filed an application and testimony relative to the subject matter of the proceeding on February 25, 2020. By its application, DEC requests Commission approval for a decrease in DEC's fuel and fuel-related costs currently in effect, with the changes being effective for service rendered on and after September 1, 2020. DEC's request, excluding the regulatory fee, would result in decreases of 0.1968 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for residential customers, 0.1417 cents per kWh for commercial customers, and 0.1084 cents per kWh for industrial customers. If approved, the net effect of DEC's request would be to decrease the monthly bill of a residential customer using 1,000 kWh of electricity by \$1.97.

Specific information about DEC's application may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, Raleigh, North Carolina, where a copy of DEC's application is available for review by the public, and on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.net.

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Correspondence concerning the fuel adjustment proceeding and the hearing scheduled thereon should be directed to the Public Staff. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information which the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed

to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, c/o Consumer Protection-Utilities, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-9001.

Written statements are not evidence unless the writers appear at a public hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements.

Persons desiring to intervene as formal parties should file a petition under North Carolina Utilities Commission Rules R1-5 and R1-19 on or before Monday, May 18, 2020. Such petitions should be filed with the Chief Clerk of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. The direct testimony and exhibits of expert witnesses to be presented by intervenors should also be filed with the Commission on or before Monday, May 18, 2020.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 17th day of March, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Deputy Clerk

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