

1 PLACE: Via Videoconference
2 DATE: Wednesday, April 14, 2021
3 TIME: 6:00 p.m. - 8:03 p.m.
4 DOCKET NO: E-100, Sub 165
5 BEFORE: Commissioner Daniel G. Clodfelter, Presiding
6 Chair Charlotte A. Mitchell
7 Commissioner ToNola D. Brown-Bland
8 Commissioner Lyons Gray
9 Commissioner Kimberly W. Duffley
10 Commissioner Jeffrey A. Hughes
11 Commissioner Floyd B. McKissick, Jr.
12

13 IN THE MATTER OF:

14 Generic Electric - 2020 Biennial
15 Integrated Resource Plan Reports and
16 Related 2020 REPS Compliance Plans
17

18 VOLUME 1
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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Good evening.

Let's -- Madam Court Reporter, if you will open the record, and we will all come to order, please.

I am Commissioner Dan Clodfelter and I will be presiding at the public witness hearing this evening. Joining me are the following Commissioners, and as I call your name, will you raise your hand so folks who are watching on YouTube can identify you on the screen? We have with us tonight Commission Chair Charlotte Mitchell; Commissioners ToNola Brown-Bland, Lyons Gray, Kim Duffley, Jeff Hughes, and Floyd McKissick, Jr.

We will now call for hearing Docket Number E-100, Sub 165, which is In The Matter of the 2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan Reports and the Related 2020 Renewable Energy Portfolio Compliance Plans for Duke Energy Carolinas, Duke Energy Progress and Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina.

Before we proceed this evening, and as required by the State Government Ethics Act, I will remind all the members of the Commission of our duty to avoid conflicts of interest, and at this time I

1 will inquire whether any Commissioner has a known
2 conflict of interest or appearance of such conflict
3 with respect to these proceedings. If so, if you'll
4 please give me a signal.

5 (Pause).

6 Madam Court Reporter, please let the record
7 reflect that no such conflicts were called out or
8 identified by any of the Commissioners.

9 Ladies and gentlemen, North Carolina General
10 Statute § 62-110.1(c) requires that the Commission
11 develop, publicize and keep current an analysis of the
12 long-range needs for electricity in the State of North
13 Carolina. In order to help the Commission meet this
14 requirement, we conduct an annual investigation into
15 the Integrated Resource Plans prepared by each of the
16 principal electric utilities under the Commission's
17 jurisdiction. In addition to this review, Commission
18 Rule R8-67(b) requires those same electric public
19 utilities to file a plan for their renewable --
20 meeting the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard, REPS
21 Compliance Plan we call it, and that has to be
22 included as part of their reports.

23 The Integrated Resource Planning which
24 you'll hear referred to throughout these proceedings

1 in shorthand sometimes as IRP is intended to identify
2 those electric resource options that can be obtained
3 at the lowest cost to ratepayers consistent with safe,
4 adequate and reliable service. The Utilities'
5 resource plans must consider conservation, efficiency
6 and load management as well as supply-side
7 alternatives in the selection of resource options.

8 The Commission does not approve or
9 disapprove the Utilities' Integrated Resource Plans.
10 It takes those plans into consideration in its own
11 long-range plan for electric service in North Carolina
12 and also in the Commission's determination of
13 Applications for Certificates of Public Convenience
14 and Necessity to construct new electric generating
15 facilities and in other proceedings where approval of
16 utility programs or investments is required by the
17 Statutes.

18 On May 1st, 2020, Virginia Electric and
19 Power Company/Dominion Energy North Carolina filed its
20 2020 Integrated Resource Plan and its REPS Compliance
21 Plan.

22 On September 1st, 2020, Duke Energy Progress
23 and Duke Energy Carolinas filed their 2020 Integrated
24 Resource Plans and their 2020 Renewable Energy

1 Portfolio Compliance Plans.

2 The Public Staff's participation as a party
3 in these proceedings is recognized pursuant to General
4 Statute § 62-15(d). And, in addition, the
5 participation of the North Carolina Attorney General
6 is recognized pursuant to his notice of intervention
7 filed under General Statute § 62-20.

8 The following parties have petitioned to
9 intervene and have been granted right to intervene as
10 parties in this proceeding by the Commission; the
11 following parties: North Carolina Sustainable Energy
12 Association; Vote Solar; Carolinas Clean Energy
13 Business Alliance; NC WARN, Inc.; the Center for
14 Biological Diversity; the Carolina Industrial Group
15 for Fair Utility Rates; the Carolina Utility Customers
16 Association; the Tech Customers; Broad River Energy,
17 LLC; the City of Asheville and Buncombe County; the
18 City of Charlotte; the Sierra Club; the Natural
19 Resources Defense Council; Electricities of North
20 Carolina, Inc.; the North Carolina Eastern Municipal
21 Power Agency; and the North Carolina Municipal Power
22 Agency, I.

23 On February 2nd of this year, the Commission
24 issued an Order scheduling a public hearing to be

1 conducted by remote technology on March 16th, 2021,
2 for the purpose of taking non-expert public witness
3 testimony with respect to the Integrated Resource
4 Plans and the Compliance Plans. That Order stated
5 that members of the public desiring to testify must
6 register in advance, no later than 5:00 p.m. on
7 Thursday, March 11th, by contacting members of the
8 Public Staff. The Commission's Order also required
9 the three Utilities to publish notice of this hearing
10 in newspapers having general coverage in their
11 respective North Carolina service areas.

12 The Public Staff received more than 200
13 requests to testify at the originally scheduled
14 hearing. The Commission was very pleased to have this
15 level of public interest, but determined that
16 accommodating such a very large number of witnesses
17 via remote technology on a single date presented
18 logistical and technical challenges that simple could
19 not be overcome. Therefore, the Commission issued an
20 Order on March 12th, 2021, stating in part that
21 persons registering to testify for the March 16th
22 hearing would instead be heard on a series of sessions
23 over several dates in April and in May.

24 On March 26, 2021, the Commission issued an

1 Order establishing six dates in April and in May for
2 the purpose of hearing the public witness testimony
3 from persons who have previously registered with the
4 Public Staff, and the Commission directed the Public
5 Staff to evenly schedule the witnesses across the six
6 evenings and then notify each person of the date he or
7 she is to present testimony.

8 And that brings us to tonight, which is the
9 first of the six such hearing dates and to the process
10 that we will be following this evening to receive
11 testimony.

12 Over the past 12 months the Commission has
13 conducted several public hearings using remote
14 technology. We have learned that such hearings can
15 potentially take longer and sometimes be more
16 complicated than hearings that are conducted in
17 person. So in the interest of being able to hear from
18 everyone who is scheduled to testify this evening, I
19 urge each of the parties who are going to testify and
20 those who are participating via Webex to respect and
21 to abide by the following procedures.

22 First, the Public Staff has grouped the
23 witnesses and has scheduled each group of witnesses
24 for a specific date. The group scheduled for this

1 date are the only witnesses the Commission will
2 receive testimony from this evening. And once all the
3 registered witnesses have testified for this evening,
4 we will recess the hearing and resume the next session
5 at a later date.

6 Second, public witnesses as they call in
7 will be on the telephone line but they will not be on
8 the Webex video screen. They are visible on YouTube.
9 However, anyone participating in or observing
10 tonight's hearing can watch the Commission and the
11 representatives of the parties and the Companies via
12 YouTube. The link to the YouTube video is available
13 on the Commission's website. If you have not
14 connected that link or found that link, go to the
15 Commission's home page www.ncuc.net and you will find
16 a link to the YouTube video.

17 Third, the Public Staff will call this
18 evening's witnesses in the order in which they
19 registered to speak with the Public Staff. When your
20 name is called as a witness - please listen up - when
21 your name is called as a witness, at that point our
22 meeting technician will unmute your telephone line.
23 When you hear two beeps on your telephone line that
24 means your line is now live and that we can hear you.

1 I will then ask you at that point to take an oath of
2 affirmation. Your testimony must be under oath. We
3 will not be asking you to swear on the Bible because
4 obviously we simply can't physically make a Bible for
5 you to put your hand on this evening, so I'll ask you
6 to take an oath of affirmation.

7 After you've taken the oath, the Public
8 Staff attorneys will ask you a few preliminary
9 introductory questions. They will ask you your name,
10 your address and your electric service provider.
11 Immediately after those questions you may proceed to
12 make your statement to the Commission. You will have
13 five minutes to present your testimony. Due to the
14 number of witnesses we have this evening and the
15 requirements of the technology, I just don't have the
16 latitude to allow you to go beyond your allotted time.

17 Commissioner Brown-Bland has agreed to
18 assist me this evening in helping keep time. She will
19 be keeping time on the five minutes. You will hear an
20 audible ringing tone when your time is up and I will
21 have to ask you at that point to stop. It just takes
22 us time to get the next witness up in sequence and
23 it's going to be a long evening as it is, so I've got
24 to ask you to cut your remarks short if you haven't

1 finished. If you have something to say and you can't
2 get it in in the five minutes, please remember that
3 you are still free to file a written statement with
4 your views, and your evidence, and your opinion by
5 filing that with the Clerk in this docket. Those will
6 be received and made part of the record in the case.

7 Let me also suggest to you that if you have
8 something to say that you believe has already been
9 covered by an earlier speaker, you may simply refer to
10 that earlier testimony and say you support the earlier
11 witness, and that will allow you to use your five
12 minutes to make different points or to make new points
13 that haven't already been said.

14 If you have more information again that you
15 wish the Commission to consider or if you have
16 documents that you wish the Commission to review,
17 please remember again that you can file a supplemental
18 written statement with the Clerk.

19 You will be speaking to the Commissioners
20 whom you'll be able to see and I hope you can see us
21 now on the YouTube link. After you've completed your
22 statement don't immediately hang up. The
23 Commissioners or the attorneys for the parties or for
24 the Public Staff may have questions they want to ask

1 you. So please don't hang up your line until I have
2 let you know that no one has any questions to ask you.

3 When you've completed your statement and
4 you've answered any questions that have been asked to
5 you by Commissioners or by the parties, your phone
6 line will then be placed again on mute by our meeting
7 technician. That's Mr. John McCoy. He's really --
8 I'm chairing this meeting but he's really running the
9 meeting when you get right down to it. John McCoy is
10 sort of managing all of us tonight. He does a very
11 good job of it. He will put you back on mute when
12 you're done. You are free, if you wish at that point,
13 to disconnect your line and end the call. If you're
14 free -- if you want to stay on and continue to listen,
15 you're also free to do that. However, please keep
16 your background noise quiet and keep your devices
17 muted.

18 Let me touch on a couple of points about
19 that that will help us avoid problems with technology
20 this evening. These are things we've learned over the
21 course of the last year. If you are using a portable
22 phone, a cell phone, or a smart phone as your
23 telephone link tonight to talk to us, please be sure
24 your device is fully charged or that you have access

1 to a way to charge it during the course of the
2 evening. Given the large number of speakers we have
3 this evening and how long it takes to get through each
4 speaker, it could be very well late into the evening,
5 so those of you who are late on the list, don't run
6 out of power before we get to you and call on you.

7 If you are watching the hearing on YouTube
8 and you're also connected by your telephone line,
9 please remember to keep your computer audio on mute to
10 avoid feedback on your telephone line. And if you're
11 using your computer to dial in for audio and to speak
12 to us over the computer audio that you have for the
13 hearing, please keep your computer audio on mute
14 except when you've been called on and you're actually
15 speaking to us.

16 And last of all, please be sure that the
17 volume level on your telephone or the device that
18 you're using is set high enough so that we can hear
19 you. This is a problem we've had in some prior public
20 hearings.

21 With those preliminaries out of the way, I'm
22 now going to call upon counsel for the parties to
23 announce their appearances for the record, and I'll
24 begin with the three utility companies.

1 MR. SOMERS: Good evening, Commissioner
2 Clodfelter. Members of the Commission, this is Bo
3 Somers. I am Deputy General Counsel for Duke Energy
4 Carolinas and Duke Energy Progress. Thank you.

5 MS. KELLS: Commissioner Clodfelter, this is
6 Andrea Kells with the Law Firm of McGuireWoods
7 appearing on behalf of Dominion Energy North Carolina.
8 Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
10 Mr. Somers and Ms. Kells. Are there any intervenors
11 who are appearing tonight?

12 (No response)

13 If not, we'll take appearances from the
14 Public Staff. No one wants to be recognized. So,
15 Ms. Edmondson.

16 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes. I am Lucy Edmondson
17 from the Public Staff on behalf of the Using and
18 Consuming Public. Also appearing with me are Layla
19 Cummings and Robert Josey.

20 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you all.
21 Let me ask counsel for the Companies and for the
22 Public Staff, are there any preliminary motions or
23 other matters that we need to address before we open
24 the hearing and start the testimony?

1 MR. SOMERS: (Shakes head no).

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
3 you're on mute.

4 MS. EDMONDSON: I believe the Attorney
5 General is also on here.

6 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I saw Ms. Force on
7 the screen but I didn't hear her speak up. Ms. Force,
8 do you wish to put in an appearance?

9 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: I saw her
10 internet fade.

11 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Well --

12 MR. SOMERS: Commissioner Clodfelter?

13 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Yes.

14 MR. SOMERS: I also saw Munashe from the
15 AG's office on earlier. I don't know if he's there
16 and wants to enter an appearance.

17 MR. MAGARIRA: Good evening. Munashe
18 Magarira from the Attorney General's Office.

19 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Glad to have you
20 with us this night.

21 MR. MAGARIRA: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Are there any
23 other intervenors who wish to make a formal appearance
24 at the hearing tonight? If so, speak now.

1 (No response)

2 Hearing none, Ms. Edmondson, we'll get
3 started for the evening and you may call your first
4 witness, please.

5 MS. EDMONDSON: The first witness is Brendan
6 Johnson. And it -- the IT has indicated that they do
7 not see him on the line.

8 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let me ask,
9 Mr. Brendan Johnson, are you with us this evening?

10 (No response)

11 And, Mr. McCoy, you do not have Mr. Johnson
12 on the list of attendees?

13 MR. MCCOY: No, sir.

14 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
15 please move to the second witness.

16 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes. The second witness we
17 have is Cathy Buckley. And they do indicate that she
18 is on the line.

19 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Buckley, can
20 you hear me?

21 MS. BUCKLEY: I can, sir.

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: That's great. Let
23 me -- you're the guinea pig here and then everyone
24 else can listen and learn.

1 CATHY BUCKLEY;
2 having been duly affirmed,
3 testified as follows:

4 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: You are now sworn
5 in and Ms. Edmondson will have some questions for you.

6 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes.

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

8 Q Please state your name for the record.

9 A Cathy, C-A-T-H-Y, Buckley, B-U-C-K-L-E-Y.

10 Q And your address, please?

11 A 710 Independence Place, Raleigh.

12 Q And who is your -- who provides you electricity?

13 A Duke Progress.

14 Q Please make your statement.

15 A Thank you. Good evening, Commissioner
16 Clodfelter, Chair Mitchell, and Commissioners.
17 I'm Cathy Buckley, Director of Statewide
18 Organizing at the North Carolina Alliance To
19 Protect Our People And The Places We Live, APPPL,
20 on whose behalf I testify now. Several APPPL
21 board members will speak at subsequent hearings.

22 Thank you for this opportunity to
23 testify for me and for my many fellow
24 registrants. Based on the questions you raised

1 at the hearing in the 2019 rate cases, I became
2 convinced that we have a competent, concerned,
3 well-informed Utilities Commission, perhaps the
4 incentive for Duke to ensure that energy policy
5 comes increasingly from the Legislature. I was
6 also very impressed by Public Staff, by the
7 Attorney General's Office and other intervenors,
8 but most of the Duke technical staff. I think if
9 they led company policy we would have a very
10 different IRP.

11 I remember thinking as a kid that
12 many things in the grown up world were upside
13 down. Now, I am a grown up and things are more
14 upside down than ever. In a Legislative hearing
15 this year, Public Staff reiterated that its
16 mandate is economics, not environment. So,
17 should we ignore the \$7 billion cost of Hurricane
18 Floyd, the incalculable cost of lost lives? Our
19 society's economy and environment divide is
20 upside down. The combined salaries of you, our
21 seven North Carolina Utility Commissioners, comes
22 to less than 10 percent of that of Duke Energy's
23 CEO, while thousands of customers have their
24 electricity shut off because they cannot afford

1 to pay. This is upside down.

2 I clearly remember a moment, I was
3 about 10, sitting on the living room couch with
4 the latest *Life Magazine*. In it was an article
5 on what the GI saw when they first entered the
6 concentration camps. I could not believe my
7 eyes. I still remember thinking how could anyone
8 do this and why couldn't someone stop them. And
9 now we have created a gas chamber in our very
10 atmosphere. On a human scale that space seems
11 infinite, yet the area where our weather is
12 created is less than 10 miles high; the distance
13 between Durham and Chapel Hill. On average, we
14 are pumping 110 million tons of poisonous
15 greenhouse gases into this chamber every 24
16 hours, 365 days a year.

17 During my allotted five minutes
18 tonight, the equivalent of the weight of the
19 Empire State Building in climate wrecking poisons
20 will have been released into our atmosphere
21 through human activities. We have already lost
22 well over half of the populations of ocean-living
23 vertebrae. We are on track to lose half of all
24 land-based species this century.

1 I was very concerned after reading
2 the Duke Carolinas' IRP at the last of urgency.
3 There was no excitement about taking on the most
4 daunting energy revolution ever. This is not a
5 job for those wishing to move slowly while
6 defending the status quo. We have stalled far
7 too long. Whether we break up Duke or lessen its
8 monopoly powers, the stakes are too high to leave
9 this revolution in their hands.

10 Please reject these Duke and
11 Dominion IRPs. See that they adhere to Governor
12 Cooper's Clean Energy Plan and President Biden's
13 aim of net zero carbon in electricity production
14 by 2035. These goals recognize the urgency. We
15 all - rural, urban, republican, democrat, all
16 colors, all creeds - as JFK said in his 1963
17 American University speech "We all inhabit this
18 small planet. We all breathe the same air. We
19 all cherish our children's future."

20 Let us strive from our highest,
21 most authentic shared values so that no child
22 born this year will ask as a 10-year old in 2031
23 'how can anyone do this and why didn't someone
24 stop them'. Let them say instead 'WOW! I must

1 be magic. Everything changed when I was born'.

2 Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,

4 Ms. Buckley.

5 Are there any questions for Ms. Buckley?

6 (Pause).

7 I don't see any questions. So, Ms. Buckley,

8 thank you for being with us this evening.

9 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: You are free to

11 stay or go as you choose.

12 (The witness is excused)

13 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,

14 call your next witness, please.

15 MS. EDMONDSON: The next witness is Cathy

16 Holt.

17 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: John, do we have

18 Ms. Holt?

19 MS. HOLT: Can you hear me? I'm on the

20 phone.

21 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Yes, I can. Thank

22 you. Ms. Holt, will you please take the oath?

23 CATHY HOLT;

24 having been duly affirmed,

1 testified as follows:

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
3 proceed.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

5 Q Ms. Holt, please give your name and address for
6 the record.

7 A Okay, yes. My name is Cathy, C-A-T-H-Y, Holt
8 H-O-L-T. My address is 306 Stonewall Avenue,
9 Swannanoa, North Carolina 28778.

10 Q And who is your electric provider?

11 A Duke.

12 Q Is it Duke Energy Carolinas?

13 A Oh yes.

14 Q Or Duke Energy Progress? All right. Would you
15 go ahead and make your statement, please?

16 A Yes. Thank you so much for this opportunity.
17 I'm understanding that Duke's IRP calls for 50
18 new fracked gas plants, 9.6 gigawatts, and this
19 would be locking North Carolina into a fossil
20 fuel future. I want to emphasize the fact that
21 even though they may not emit much carbon,
22 fracked gas, methane, entering the atmosphere is
23 86 times more potent as a greenhouse gas in
24 the -- in a 20-year timeframe than is carbon

1 dioxide. So this is -- this would represent some
2 people feel as equal a threat to a coal-fired
3 plant because there are routine emissions of
4 fracked gas at every step of the way. Fracked
5 gas is not only harmful to the atmosphere, it is
6 also wrecking the water system, water supplies of
7 the communities where the fracking is occurring.

8 I want to note the fact that only
9 14 percent renewables are called for in Duke's
10 IRP by the year 2035. If you compare that with
11 the national average of other utility companies,
12 which is 19.8, you can see quite a significant
13 difference. Although neither of those represents
14 what the previous speaker called for which is
15 really truly a revolution in our energy
16 production and consumption.

17 I want to add that there are going
18 to be significant increases in ratepayer bills,
19 and these could be avoided by choosing a plan
20 that would feature energy efficiency as the most
21 cost-effective way to provide energy or to reduce
22 the demand, and renewables are cheaper already
23 and scheduled to become even more so within the
24 next five years. That is to say the cost of

1 battery storage is going down.

2 So instead of Duke's plan what we
3 need is to focus on decreasing greenhouse gas
4 emissions 70 percent by 2030, so that includes
5 fossil gas as well as coal or any other means
6 that is generating greenhouse gas emissions,
7 maximizing energy efficiency and accelerating the
8 shut down of coal plants to the goal of zero in
9 operation by the year 2030 or sooner.

10 So we need to boost the
11 renewables, the share of renewables in the North
12 Carolina energy mix up to 66 percent by 2030, and
13 this is feasible to be done with existing
14 technology.

15 I'd like to note that plants that
16 run on fracked gas will soon be stranded assets
17 when the cost which is already so much lower for
18 solar and wind and other renewable forms of
19 energy, when those costs drop even further.

20 So, thank you so much. I really
21 want to take a stand that the people of North
22 Carolina deserve better than continuously
23 increasing rate hikes. They deserve better
24 than polluting -- air pollution inducing

1 combustion technologies which really belong to
2 the last century, and it is time to move fully
3 and swiftly to a renewable energy supply for our
4 electricity generation. Thank you so much.

5 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you, Ms.
6 Holt. Stay on the line for just a minute.

7 Let's see, does anyone have any questions
8 for Ms. Holt?

9 MR. SOMERS: Commissioner Clodfelter, this
10 is Bo Somers. I have a couple of questions if it's
11 all right.

12 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: That's fine.
13 Ms. Holt, are you still with us?

14 THE WITNESS: I am.

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Okay. Mr. Somers,
16 proceed.

17 MR. SOMERS: Thank you.

18 CROSS EXAMINATION BY MR. SOMERS:

19 Q Good evening, Ms. Holt. Can you hear me okay?

20 A I certainly do. Thank you.

21 Q Thank you for testifying tonight. I had just a
22 couple of questions. I'm Duke Energy's attorney
23 and I appreciate your testimony very much and
24 your heartfelt conviction on your views.

1 I did want to clarify something
2 though about what you said. When you asked the
3 Commission, as I heard it, to reject Duke's IRPs,
4 I wanted to confirm you are aware that in the
5 2020 IRPs Duke presented six different portfolios
6 for the Commission to consider? Have you seen
7 those? Are you aware of that?

8 A Six different portfolios?

9 Q Yes, ma'am.

10 A No, I am not aware.

11 Q Okay. Well, I will represent to you --

12 A Please explain.

13 Q Yes, ma'am. Thank you. I will represent to you
14 that the IRPs do include six different
15 portfolios. One of which has no new gas in it;
16 two of which achieve 70 percent carbon reductions
17 in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order
18 or the Clean Energy Plan. And so I just wanted
19 to clarify, when you're asking the Commission to
20 reject the IRP, are you asking the Commission to
21 reject it in its entirety or just some of the
22 portfolios that Duke has proposed for
23 consideration by the Commission?

24 A I would like to say that if there is one

1 portfolio that has been submitted which meets all
2 of the standards set by Cooper and Biden then I
3 would be interested in seeing the plan. I won't
4 speak that I would be in support of it without
5 having seen it. Thank you.

6 Q Thank you, Ms. Holt.

7 MR. SOMERS: I have no further questions.

8 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Does anyone else
9 have questions for Ms. Holt?

10 (No response)

11 If not, Ms. Holt, thank you for being with
12 us this evening. And again, you're free to stay or go
13 as you choose.

14 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

15 (The witness is excused)

16 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

17 MS. EDMONDSON: The next witness we have is
18 Christina Hendriks. I'm not sure that she is on the
19 line.

20 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Hendriks, are
21 you with us? Can you hear me?

22 (No response)

23 Mr. McCoy, have you been able to locate
24 Ms. Hendriks?

1 MR. McCOY: No, sir.

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let's move then to
3 the next witness, Ms. Edmondson.

4 MS. EDMONDSON: That would be Beth Henry and
5 I do believe she is on the line.

6 MS. HENRY: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Henry, you're
8 with us this evening?

9 MS. HENRY: Yes, I am.

10 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Welcome back.

11 MS. HENRY: Thanks.

12 BETH HENRY;

13 having been duly affirmed,

14 testified as follows:

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson, you
16 may proceed.

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

18 Q Good evening, Ms. Henry. Would you please give
19 your name, address and your electric provider?

20 A Beth Henry, 366 Stoneybrook Road, Duke Energy --
21 Charlotte, Duke Energy Carolinas.

22 Q And please make your statement.

23 A Okay. I have been testifying before this
24 Commission for over 15 years now, because I am so

1 convinced that the climate crisis poses an
2 existential threat to my children and
3 grandchildren and all children.

4 I have read Duke's proposal and
5 much of the rest of the docket and I have three
6 main points I want to make. I think -- I
7 understand, as Mr. Somers just pointed out, that
8 there are several different proposals, but I -- I
9 think the -- some of the assumptions in the
10 different proposals I would challenge. And Duke
11 seems to prefer the proposal that has a lot of
12 new gas plants, which to me is inconsistent with
13 Duke's statement that it's going to be net zero
14 emissions by 2050.

15 I hope the Commission will not
16 allow Duke to build a lot more gas plants,
17 because that would be totally inconsistent with
18 what the climate scientists are saying we have to
19 do. And if those gas plants are built they'll
20 have to be shut down early or Duke will have to
21 invest in yet to be invented pie-in-the-sky
22 technology, and I just don't think we should take
23 a chance on that. It would be way too costly for
24 ratepayers. And these costs are foreseeable and

1 avoidable.

2 I'm asking the Commission to
3 require Duke to squeeze every possible ounce of
4 power from already existing power plants, from
5 energy efficiency, demand-side management, and
6 purchasing power from nearby utilities.

7 My second main point is I think we
8 need an evidentiary hearing, because many of
9 Duke's statements, assumptions and analyses have
10 been strongly and believably challenged by
11 numerous experts that the intervenors have
12 presented in this docket. I just think there's
13 too much at stake for the Commission to just
14 accept Duke's assumptions and analyses that have
15 been so strongly converted. I mean, I could give
16 just a couple of examples but there's so many.

17 I think several experts have said
18 that Duke has understated the cost of new gas
19 plants but overstated the cost of renewables and
20 battery storage; Duke has understated the amount
21 of already existing available power in its
22 system; Duke has failed to consider DEP and DEC
23 as one. Although I sat there and heard so much
24 testimony about how the merger was going to

1 benefit ratepayers but it doesn't seem like
2 that's really happening now. And similarly, I
3 heard a Duke executive on NPR recently brag about
4 how what happened in Texas would never happen
5 here because of the regional interconnections,
6 but Duke doesn't seem to be relying on those
7 either.

8 So I really think there's just way
9 too much at stake as far as the money that would
10 be at risk from ratepayers to allow Duke to build
11 out all these gas plants rather than relying on
12 cheaper ways and less damaging ways of getting
13 more energy.

14 And then, finally, my third point
15 is I just want to urge all the Commissioners. So
16 many folks don't understand. They think that
17 because solar and wind and batteries are getting
18 cheaper that the energy transition is going to
19 happen automatically, but they don't understand
20 that as long as utilities like Duke can get you
21 to agree to build gas plants that they will be
22 built even if there is something cheaper.

23 Thanks. I guess that's the alarm.

24 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: It was.

1 Ms. Henry, I'm going to have to wrap you up there.

2 THE WITNESS: That's fine.

3 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Again, you know
4 how to find us and get us written materials if you
5 want to.

6 THE WITNESS: Okay.

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: And I assure you
8 that those goes into the evidentiary record so
9 anything you didn't get to tonight.

10 THE WITNESS: Okay.

11 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let's see if
12 anybody's got any questions for you.

13 (Pause).

14 I'm not seeing any. So thank you for being
15 with us and again thank you for following --

16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: -- this issue so
18 closely over the years. We appreciate it.

19 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.

20 (The witness is excused)

21 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

22 MS. EDMONDSON: The next witness is Betsy
23 Bickel.

24 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Bickel, are

1 you with us?

2 (Audio feedback)

3 MS. BICKEL: I am here. Can you hear me?

4 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Yes, I can but
5 we're getting an echo back from your phone. We're
6 getting repeated back to us what's been said so --

7 MS. BICKEL: I just muted my computer. Now
8 how is it?

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you very
10 much. Let's get you the oath.

11 BETSY BICKEL;
12 having been duly affirmed,
13 testified as follows:

14 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson.
15 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

16 Q Would you please tell us your name, address and
17 electric provider?

18 A My name is Betsy Bickel. I live at 117 West
19 Trinity Avenue in Durham, North Carolina, and I
20 am a Duke Energy Progress customer.

21 Q And would you please give your statement?

22 A My name is Betsy Bickel. I live in Durham, North
23 Carolina and I am an unwilling hostage of Duke
24 Energy. I would actually have no problem with

1 Duke Energy's IRP if they did not have a monopoly
2 on power here, because the market would quickly
3 put them out of business.

4 I would like to start by saying
5 that if they want their name to reflect their
6 business they should re-brand as Duke Energy
7 regress as their plan is perfect for the early
8 20th Century. However, we are now 50 years past
9 knowing that our climate is warming alarmingly
10 primarily from the use of fossil fuels and that
11 if we do not reverse course quickly and
12 significantly in the next 10 years we will cook
13 ourselves right out of a home. So I am appalled
14 at the lack of intelligence, imagination and
15 willingness on the part of this billion dollar
16 corporation to address the needs of this time.
17 It would be laughably short-sighted to have a
18 business model that elevates quarterly profits
19 over long-term survivability if it were not so
20 deadly.

21 If this IRP was an English paper
22 in my high school class, I would give it an MTB
23 for missed the boat. An F is too generous a
24 grade for an IRP that actively undermines our

1 ability to address climate change and is based on
2 misrepresented cost of gas and renewables and
3 over-estimated demand.

4 Let's address the climate crisis
5 inherent in these scenarios. The IRP calls for
6 more gas plants which require more fracked gas
7 and pipelines. We all know that pipelines leak
8 and occasionally explode. And there's
9 considerable opposition to them such that the
10 Atlantic Coast Pipeline has been stopped and
11 abandoned leaving an environmental hazard all
12 along its path. The Mountain Valley Pipeline has
13 been delayed time and again from lawsuits and is
14 also likely to be abandoned as it cannot be built
15 without leaving environmental devastation in its
16 wake.

17 Oil and gas miles have been shown
18 by satellite data to leak up to 3.7 percent of
19 the methane into the atmosphere. Any emission --
20 this is a quote, *Any emission rate greater than*
21 *one percent or so is significant in terms of the*
22 *greenhouse gas consequences of using natural gas.*
23 *And at 3.5 percent -- 3.7 percent natural gas is*
24 *far worse for the climate than is coal, says*

1 Robert Howarth at Cornell University. This is
2 from an article at *New Scientist* which I've
3 included in my statement.

4 I don't have to tell Duke Energy
5 how much more warming methane is for the climate
6 than CO2, they know that, but maybe I need to
7 remind them that the ultimate aim is to reduce
8 greenhouse gases, not just reduce CO2.

9 Now let's talk economics. Every news
10 article I've read on this has stated that renewables
11 are now cheaper than fossil fuels including gas. In
12 the IRP portfolio that includes renewables but costs
13 do not seem to reflect that reality. I wonder where
14 they are drawing their numbers from. I think it is
15 essential that we have an evidentiary hearing to look
16 into their numbers and analysis. I don't like to
17 think that I'm suspicious of a multi-billion dollar
18 corporation that pays no taxes, but I wonder if they
19 are being transparent about the costs and benefits of
20 the possible sources of energy. I wonder if they
21 include the cost of coal ash clean up, gas explosions,
22 and leaks, and more intense hurricanes and floods that
23 are the inevitable result of more fossil fuels. I
24 doubt it.

1 Today, I got a letter from President Biden
2 saying that he was committed to ending the subsidy
3 from fossil fuels. Is that included in their cost? I
4 doubt that. I would like to have an evidentiary
5 hearing where experts on renewable energies can
6 present the information that they have and look at the
7 information that Duke used in coming up with their
8 numbers. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
10 Ms. Bickel. Are there questions for Ms. Bickel?

11 (No response)

12 There's been a reference about an
13 evidentiary hearing. Let me assure everyone who's
14 listening or watching us tonight that the expert
15 reports that have been submitted by the "X"
16 intervenors are part of the evidentiary record in this
17 case. They will constitute evidence that the
18 Commission reviews and considers and so those do not
19 have to be especially brought forward. Those are
20 already in the record in this case. So thank you,
21 Ms. Bickel, we appreciate your being with
22 us tonight --

23 THE WITNESS: May I ask a question about
24 that?

1 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: You may.

2 THE WITNESS: May I ask a question about
3 that?

4 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Yes, you may.

5 THE WITNESS: Will there be a chance for
6 those experts to ask directly Duke Energy
7 representatives where they got their numbers?

8 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: That has not yet
9 been determined, Ms. Bickel. The Statutes concerning
10 the Integrated Resource Plans do not require an
11 evidentiary hearing. They permit an evidentiary
12 hearing but only on specific questions that the
13 Commission wants to ask. So that -- we're taking the
14 public witness testimony this evening and through
15 these other hearings and then we will make a
16 determination about what additional hearings might
17 need to be conducted. So that's a question that has
18 not yet been decided.

19 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: We hear your point
21 on that, and thank you for being with us tonight.

22 MS. BICKEL: Thank you.

23 (The witness is excused)

24 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

1 MS. EDMONDSON: The next witness we have is
2 Christopher Hendriks. We never received a telephone
3 number from him. There are two mystery numbers who
4 called in that we don't recognize. I think that IT,
5 Mr. McCoy, I think they wanted to check and see if
6 those people, one of those people was Mr. Hendriks.

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. McCoy, can you
8 tell whether either one of the two unidentified
9 callers is Mr. Hendriks?

10 MR. MCCOY: I have unmuted both of them.

11 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Hendriks, are
12 you out there? Christopher Hendriks?

13 (No response)

14 No response. Then, Ms. Edmondson, let's
15 move to the next witness.

16 MS. EDMONDSON: The next witness is Brad
17 Rouse.

18 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Rouse, are you
19 there? Mr. Rouse? Mr. McCoy, can you --

20 MR. ROUSE: Yes --

21 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Are you there?

22 MR. ROUSE: I am here. Can you hear me?

23 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I can hear you
24 now. Thank you, sir.

1 MR. ROUSE: Okay. Good.

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let's get you the
3 oath.

4 BRAD ROUSE;
5 having been duly affirmed,
6 testified as follows:

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson.

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

9 Q Mr. Rouse, please state your name, address and
10 electric provider for the record.

11 A Yes, Brad Rouse, B-R-A-D R-O-U-S-E, 3 Stegall
12 Lane in Asheville, North Carolina, and the
13 electric provider is Duke Progress.

14 Q Would you please make your statement?

15 A I will. Yeah, I -- well, as I said, I'm Brad
16 Rouse, living in Asheville. I grew up in North
17 Carolina in the Town of Farmville. I went to
18 Yale, studied economics, went to Carolina, got an
19 MBA in Finance at Kenan-Flagler, and I spent then
20 22 years working in the field of utility
21 planning. One of my first projects was
22 developing the initial economic space load
23 forecasting system for Carolina Power & Light
24 which is now Duke Progress. And I went on to the

1 next firm that I worked for Energy Management
2 Associates to develop the premier software
3 products that are used for Integrated Resource
4 Planning, and you can say that I'm one of the
5 pioneers of Integrated Resource Planing now
6 retired and living in Asheville.

7 But I will say 10 years ago, I've
8 been -- I've always been concerned about climate
9 change but in the last 10 years became extremely
10 concerned about climate change because of the --
11 just I didn't feel like anybody was doing
12 anything about it to the -- near the scope of
13 what needed to be done. And I sold my business
14 and devoted myself full time to working on
15 climate issues.

16 I am very happy to say that we've
17 been pleased with Duke's support of the Western
18 Carolinas Modernization Program here in Asheville
19 and I've been a part of that effort. And I've
20 been -- I'm also pleased that Duke has made a lot
21 of progress.

22 I do see the current IRP as
23 representing a lot of progress versus earlier
24 IRPs and I do tend to like the 70 percent carbon

1 reduction scenario. But I'm going to start with
2 that as what I would call the minimum thing that
3 we should be doing and that really that that is
4 not enough. And because, really I think that the
5 70 percent carbon reduction scenario really
6 suggests that Duke's not really aware of the
7 implications of the map of climate change and
8 that we have a tight carbon budget for the planet
9 and it requires 50 percent economy-wide
10 reductions in carbon emissions to stay within the
11 Paris accord goal by about 2030, 2035 at the
12 latest. And that 20 -- that 50 percent carbon
13 emissions limit is -- really means that the
14 utility industry needs to be up around 90 percent
15 by that timeframe, not 70, because we've got to
16 decarbonize not only the electric grid, we've
17 also got to decarbonize transportation,
18 industrial use of fossil fuels rather than
19 selling commercial use of fossil fuels. And
20 that is actually two-thirds of the carbon
21 emissions in our economy do not come from, or
22 more, do not come from the electric sector at all
23 but they come from these other sectors.

24 So I think Duke is -- you know,

1 the electric sector needs to lead because that's
2 what we know how to do. We know how to put
3 renewable energy, storage in place and get that
4 electrified quickly and then we need to move to
5 electrify these other sectors. And what that
6 means is that we are going to -- actually -- you
7 know, another complaint I have about the IRP is
8 that I think the load growth is understated by a
9 traumatic amount because we need to electrify
10 these other sectors. That means that electricity
11 demand is actually going to increase probably
12 more like 3.5 percent versus what Duke is saying
13 is 1 percent. Duke needs to gear up for the
14 transition to clean energy. And, you know -- so
15 we need to green the grid or almost green the
16 grid quickly. I think there's an argument per se
17 in that Duke doesn't need to go to 100 percent
18 renewable right away but instead needs to focus
19 its efforts on helping to transition industry and
20 the transportation system.

21 And I just -- I presented my
22 written testimony and I think -- you know, we
23 just need more ambition and more awareness on the
24 part of Duke, but I do appreciate how far they've

1 come which is quite a bit compared to earlier
2 IRPs, but they just need to make another step
3 change improvement the next time around -- the
4 next time an IRP comes up. And the Commission
5 needs to act in accordance with really the
6 heightened degree of ambition on the energy
7 transition than what we see out of the Duke's
8 IRP. And that concludes my remarks.

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank, you
10 Mr. Rouse. Stay with us for any questions. Anyone?

11 (No response)

12 Mr. Rouse, thank you for being with us this
13 evening. You can continue with us or you're free to
14 go on about your business, whichever you choose.
15 Thank you.

16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

17 (The witness is excused)

18 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
19 next?

20 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes. The next witness is
21 Ann Perry.

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Perry, can you
23 hear me? Ms. Perry?

24 MS. EDMONDSON: IT has indicated that she is

1 not online.

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: That she is not
3 with us?

4 MS. EDMONDSON: That's correct. As well
5 as -- and the next caller as well who is Dale
6 Stratford.

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Dale
8 Stratford, can you hear me?

9 (No response)

10 Ms. Edmondson, let's go to the next witness
11 then.

12 MS. EDMONDSON: And the next one is Andy
13 Hinds. We do not have a phone number but we can check
14 those two mystery numbers.

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. McCoy is going
16 to unmute the two unidentified callers. Are either of
17 you Mr. Andy Hines? Is Mr. Andy Hines out there?

18 (No response)

19 Ms. Edmondson, we'll move on then.

20 MS. EDMONDSON: We have number 12 who is
21 Bill Ward.

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Ward?
23 Mr. Ward, are you there? Mr. Bill Ward, can you hear
24 me?

1 (No response)

2 Mr. McCoy, is Mr. Ward's line unmuted?

3 MR. McCOY: Give me one second, just one
4 second.

5 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Okay.

6 MR. WARD: Hello.

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Ward?

8 MR. WARD: This is Bill Ward. Can you hear
9 me?

10 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: That's great. We
11 can hear you fine. Let's get you sworn in.

12 BILL WARD;
13 having been duly affirmed,
14 testified as follows:

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
16 proceed.

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

18 Q Mr. Ward, for the record, will you give your
19 name, address and electric provider, please?

20 A I'm Bill Ward, 107 Forest Ridge Drive, Chapel
21 Hill. Duke Energy Carolina.

22 Q And please make your statement.

23 A My name is Bill Ward. I'm a volunteer for Orange
24 County and one of the principal authors of Orange

1 County's most recent "Greenhouse Gas Inventory".

2 Electricity is becoming the
3 dominant form of energy in our society. It can
4 be generated from multiple sources with minimal
5 impact to the environment, readily distributed
6 with minimal infrastructure to point of use and
7 transformed into heat like mobility and other
8 societal uses.

9 As our society becomes more
10 dependent on electricity, the health of our
11 environment becomes more dependent on the
12 carbon-free generation of that electricity.

13 In September 2017, the Orange
14 County Board of County Commissioners resolved
15 that Orange County would only use carbon-free
16 energy by mid-century. To achieve this
17 commitment Orange County is dependent on Duke
18 Energy Carolina generating electricity with
19 carbon-free sources. It is dependent on
20 residents and businesses choosing to transport
21 themselves using carbon-free energy including the
22 replacement of internal combustion engine
23 vehicles with electric vehicles. It is dependent
24 on homes and businesses transitioning from

1 natural gas to electricity for space and water
2 heating. It is dependent on industry using
3 electricity as the energy source for their
4 processes. In other words,
5 carbon-free electricity generation is the
6 foundation for Orange County's transition to
7 carbon-free energy by mid-century.

8 As electricity plays a larger role
9 in transportation, space and water heating and
10 industrial processes and other applications, the
11 increased demand must be met with carbon-free
12 generation. The carbon-free technologies for
13 generation and storage of electricity are
14 available and cost-effective today as
15 demonstrated by Synapse Energy Economics analysis
16 of Duke's latest IRP and they can be
17 substantially deployed by 2035 as envisioned by
18 President Biden.

19 Unfortunately, in the most recent
20 IRP, Duke plans, they've outlined scenarios that
21 build new gas-fired plants while at the same time
22 plans that slowly implement renewable energy
23 sources and storage technologies. Duke is
24 planning to be at 15 percent renewables in 2035,

1 while the national average is already at
2 20 percent. Duke's delays in achieving
3 100 percent carbon-free energy will compound the
4 deleterious health effects of climate change,
5 according to health experts that have recently
6 testified before the U.S. Congress.

7 To mitigate the damages of climate
8 change, the North Carolina Utility Commission
9 should act now to facilitate North Carolina's
10 transition to a carbon-free society. To fulfill
11 this obligation, the Utility Commission should
12 direct Duke to deploy low cost, carbon-free
13 electricity generation as soon as possible.
14 Thank you for the opportunity.

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you
16 Mr. Ward. Let's see if anyone has any questions for
17 you.

18 (No response)

19 If not then, Mr. Ward, thank you for being
20 with us this evening. We appreciate it.

21 THE WITNESS: Yeah, thank you.

22 (The witness is excused)

23 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

24 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes. Witness 13 is Brian

1 Smith.

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Brian Smith,
3 can you hear me?

4 (No response)

5 Mr. McCoy, do we have Mr. Smith with us?

6 MR. McCOY: No, sir, it does not look like
7 it.

8 MR. BIRCKBICHLER: Hey John, this is Dan --

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let me try this
10 one more time. Brian Smith?

11 MR. BIRCKBICHLER: We have duplicate
12 callers. We need to unmute Caller Number 26 as well.
13 He has the same first six as Caller 13.

14 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Is Caller 13 with
15 us? Brian Smith, one last time.

16 (No response)

17 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

18 MS. EDMONDSON: Number 14 is Cathy Walsh.

19 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let's give it a
20 try. Ms. Walsh, are you there?

21 (No response)

22 Mr. McCoy, do we have Ms. Walsh?

23 MR. McCOY: No, we do not.

24 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Cathy Walsh?

1 (No response)

2 Ms. Edmondson?

3 MS. EDMONDSON: I've also -- IT has
4 indicated to me Number 15, Dargan Gilmore is also not
5 online.

6 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let me just ask if
7 anyone out there listening to us on the telephone line
8 and wants to speak on a telephone line, if anybody is
9 Mr. Dargan Gilmore?

10 (No response)

11 Ms. Edmondson?

12 MS. EDMONDSON: Number 16 is Anne deBuys and
13 I do believe she is online.

14 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Success.
15 Ms. deBuys, are you with us?

16 MS. deBUYS: Can you hear me?

17 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I can hear you.
18 You can hear us, so let me give you the oath.

19 ANNE deBUYS;
20 having been duly affirmed,
21 testified as follows:

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
23 proceed.

24 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

1 Q Ms. deBuys, would you please, for the record,
2 give your name, address and your electric
3 provider?

4 A Certainly. My name is Anne, A-N-N-E, deBuys,
5 D-E-B-U-Y-S. I'm at 16 Sevan Court in Asheville,
6 North Carolina, and I'm a Duke Energy Progress
7 ratepayer.

8 Q And Ms. deBuys, would you please make your
9 statement?

10 A Yes. Commissioners, thank you for the
11 opportunity to speak tonight in favor of clean
12 energy. Other speakers have been quite eloquent,
13 and I'll try to keep my statement peasy, but I
14 want to say I support the Order from the North
15 Carolina Utilities Commission that requires Duke
16 Energy to retire all six of its coal plants by
17 2030. These plants emit over 27 million tons of
18 carbon dioxide pollution annually. It sounds
19 like maybe even more from an earlier testimony.
20 This makes Duke Energy the largest climate
21 polluter in the State of North Carolina. Coal
22 burning plants in North Carolina release
23 dangerous levels of soot, sulfur dioxide, nitrous
24 oxide, and heavy metals, as well as carbon

1 dioxide, and they discharge wastewater laced with
2 mercury and arsenic into rivers and lakes across
3 our state. In addition, Duke's toxic coal ash
4 has poisoned drinking water sources at all of its
5 coal plants.

6 Pollution from coal burning plants
7 causes serious health effects, I don't need to
8 tell you, and contributes to four of the five
9 leading causes of death in North Carolina -
10 cancer, stroke, heart disease and upper
11 respiratory disease. North Carolina ranks fourth
12 in the nation in hospital admissions for heart
13 attacks and mortality from coal pollution. Coal
14 plants are the dirtiest and the most expensive
15 way to produce energy in North Carolina.

16 By comparison, solar energy
17 production already costs less than coal
18 production in North Carolina. Duke Energy
19 continues to operate all six of its old,
20 polluting coal plants at a net loss wasting
21 billions of dollars. A recent study from the
22 Energy -- from Energy Innovation showed that
23 North Carolina could boost renewable energy to
24 66 percent by 2035 while at the same time

1 decreasing cost to ratepayers.

2 So I just want to conclude by
3 saying that I think Duke Energy's IRP needs to be
4 changed to adhere to North Carolina's climate
5 goals. It needs to reduce actual greenhouse gas
6 emissions 70 percent by 2030 or do better than
7 that. Just thinking about the testimony just now
8 that we heard, I'm trying to see who it was. It
9 might have been Brad Rouse or it might have been
10 Bill Ward. At any time rate, we should be
11 doing -- it was Bill Ward -- we should be doing
12 better than that truthfully, and entirely
13 eliminate fossil fuels by 2050. We need to go to
14 zero. So thank you very much for your time and
15 attention. That concludes my remarks.

16 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
17 Ms. deBuys.

18 Does any Commissioner or attorney for the
19 parties have questions for Ms. deBuys?

20 (No response)

21 No questions, Ms. deBuys. Thank you very
22 much for bearing with us this evening. We appreciate
23 it.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

1 (The witness is excused)

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

3 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes, IT has indicated to me
4 that the next witness that's online is all the way to
5 number 26. That witnesses 17 through 25 are not --
6 have not called in.

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: They do not show
8 any callers for 17 through which?

9 MS. EDMONDSON: Twenty-five. I know that
10 22, Ms. Dawn Comfort indicated to us that she would
11 not be able to attend, but it does not appear that the
12 other ones have called in on the phone numbers that
13 they provided to us.

14 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I know we have two
15 phone numbers that are not showing on your list but
16 they are on the line. I'll tell you what we're going
17 to do is, we're going to go on through the sequence of
18 names and at the very end I'll ask if either of
19 them are any -- we'll go back through the list and see
20 if either of those two unidentified phone numbers are
21 any of the people who we passed.

22 MS. EDMONDSON: Okay.

23 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: So then your next
24 witness will be Daniel Tipps?

1 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes.

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Okay. Mr. Tipps,
3 are you there?

4 MR. TIPPS: Yes. Can I be heard?

5 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: You can be heard
6 just fine, so let's swear you in.

7 DANIEL TIPPS;
8 having been duly affirmed,
9 testified as follows:

10 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
11 please proceed.

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

13 Q Good evening, Mr. Tipps. For the record, would
14 you please state your name, address and electric
15 provider?

16 A Yes. I am Daniel Tipps, D-A-N-I-E-L T-I-P-P-S.
17 My address is 396 Patton Cove Road, Swannanoa
18 28778, and I'm a consumer of Duke Energy
19 Progress.

20 Q And would you please make your statement?

21 A Yes. Thank you to the North Carolina Utilities
22 Commission for holding this hearing. My name is
23 Daniel Tipps. I'm a sophomore at the University
24 of North Carolina in Asheville and I'm currently

1 working towards my Bachelors of Environmental
2 Studies degree. I am here tonight because I'm
3 very concerned about Duke's IRPs, particularly
4 because of the proposed rate hikes.

5 Affordable housing in Asheville is
6 extremely hard to find and I know many students
7 at UNC-A who struggle to afford housing. I know
8 many students here who moved into an apartment
9 they could barely afford and then were shocked at
10 what their electricity bill was to power basic
11 necessities like heat, washing machines and
12 dryers. A rate hike would make housing even more
13 inaccessible and may contribute to the rising
14 houseless population in Asheville.

15 I am also concerned about the
16 proposed increase in fracked gas plants in some
17 of the IRPs. I was shocked to learn that Duke
18 has proposed over 50 new fracked gas plants.
19 Fracked gas is not a long-term and cost-effective
20 energy source. According to the Energy
21 Innovation Policy and Technology, LLC, solar is
22 now the most cost-effective source of energy and
23 can potentially reduce prices for consumers.
24 This information can be found at

1 energyinnovation.org. This is one of the
2 thousands of reputable sources that agree that
3 renewable energy is now cheaper than
4 non-renewable and will continue to become
5 cheaper. Renewable energy is what Duke Energy's
6 consumers deserve.

7 On another note, Duke's current
8 proposal potentially meets North Carolina climate
9 goals in only two of its six scenarios. If one
10 of the IRPs that do not meet these goals are
11 accepted, then Duke Energy will balk North
12 Carolina into non-renewables for decades to come
13 and rates will constantly increase. Duke will be
14 criticized and will weaken its image of being a
15 leader in the North Carolina energy sector.

16 I believe Duke Energy can be a
17 leader of change and innovation in the energy
18 industry and be proud of its contribution to
19 equitable access to clean energy. If Duke wishes
20 to uphold its image of being considerate and
21 caring to its consumers, then the IRPs that do
22 not align with North Carolina climate goals must
23 be rejected.

24 I'd like to finish my statement by

1 stating that I fully support, agree with and
2 affirm every single thing that was said in each
3 previous statement so far in this hearing,
4 including statements made by Ms. Buckley,
5 Ms. Holt, Ms. Bickel, Mr. Rouse and Ms. deBuys.
6 It is obvious that the IRPs do not align with the
7 North Carolina climate goals and are
8 misrepresenting Duke's consumers and putting them
9 and our environment at risk. The testimonies
10 given tonight accurately represent our needs and
11 wishes. Thank you for your time.

12 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
13 Mr. Tipps.

14 Are there any questions for Mr. Tipps?

15 (Pause).

16 Seeing none, Mr. Tipps, you're off the hook.
17 Good luck on your degree.

18 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thanks for being
20 with us tonight.

21 (The witness is excused)

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

23 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes. Witness 27 is Corey
24 McVay.

1 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Corey McVay, are
2 you out there?

3 (No response)

4 Mr. McCoy, do we have --

5 MR. McCOY: No, sir.

6 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Corey McVay?

7 (No response)

8 All right. Ms. Edmondson?

9 MS. EDMONDSON: The next witness is Dave
10 Erb, Number 28.

11 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Erb, are you
12 with us?

13 MR. ERB: Can you hear me?

14 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I can hear you
15 just fine. Thank you. That's good. So let's get you
16 sworn.

17 DAVID ERB;
18 having been duly affirmed,
19 testified as follows:

20 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
21 proceed.

22 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

23 Q Good evening, Mr. Erb. Would you please state
24 for the record your name, address and electric

1 provider?

2 A My name is David Erb. The last name is spelled
3 E-R-B. And my address is 22 Sandon Drive,
4 Asheville 28804, and my electric provider is Duke
5 Energy Progress.

6 Q Please make your statement.

7 A Thank you. I've spent a 40-year career as an
8 engineer focused primarily on energy and
9 emissions. And I'd like to start by reiterating
10 what a number of the previous speakers have said
11 that renewables are not some pie-in-the-sky
12 future. Solar and wind are winning competitive
13 wholesale power supply bids all across the
14 country. In many cases, those installations
15 include storage so you actually can have solar
16 energy at night. And we have an advantage here
17 in the southeast that particularly in Duke
18 territory, that we don't need storage at this
19 point. We already have quite a bit of pump
20 storage hydro in the system because we need it to
21 support our high nuclear fraction. That can just
22 as easily be dedicated to storing solar and wind
23 as well as nuclear and emphasize that way or
24 other -- employ it that way.

1 I spent a good portion of my
2 career as a college professor and a good portion
3 of that advising senior projects. And one of the
4 biggest problems with engineering senior projects
5 is getting students to have a sense of urgency to
6 convince them that the whole year is really not
7 that long. To do that I would point out the
8 empirical evidence. There's a rule in
9 engineering called the 80/20 rule. For people
10 who don't know about it, it's an empirical
11 observation that you get 80 percent of results in
12 a long-term project with the first 20 percent of
13 the time and other resources. And that's
14 relevant here because we pay a lot of lip service
15 to being at net zero by 2050, and that sounds
16 like it's a long ways off but the fact is that
17 the 80/20 rule means that we only have six years
18 to get 80 percent of the way there. We've got to
19 pick that low hanging fruit really fast. In
20 fact, new fossil plants are going to be stranded
21 as soon as they open; almost as soon as they open
22 if we build them.

23 We also pay a lot of lip service
24 to the notion that we can't put all our eggs in

1 one basket, that we need a diverse generating
2 mix, and I totally agree with that statement.
3 But we've got a system which is -- that has a
4 very high fraction. I don't know the exact
5 number, but it's probably close to 90 percent
6 nuclear and fossil. And if you're going to
7 diversify that generating portfolio, you've got
8 to stop investing in more nuc and fossil
9 otherwise you will never diversify. That's not
10 advanced engineering math. That's just fractions
11 that we teach in elementary school.

12 So as a shareholder in Duke
13 Energy, a partial owner of the Company, I really
14 do not want my company investing long-term
15 capital in what is going to turn out to be
16 short-term investments.

17 As a Duke Energy ratepayer, I
18 don't want some future Utilities Commission being
19 put in a position where they're asked to bail out
20 that shortsighted management decision to build
21 these fossil resources at a time when they
22 shouldn't have been built.

23 And as an air-breathing,
24 water-drinking, topsoil-dependent human, I don't

1 think we should be using technology that was
2 developed in the late nineteenth century to build
3 the grid that's going to be -- still be around
4 after the middle of the 21st century. We should
5 be using present-day technologies like wind and
6 solar.

7 I want to thank the Commission for
8 all of your very hard work. I do know how hard
9 you work to deal with competing interests in
10 these sorts of hearings. And I want to thank you
11 for the opportunity to speak. And that's the end
12 of my statement.

13 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Erb, thank you
14 for taking time out of your evening to share with us.
15 We appreciate that, too.

16 Are there any questions for Mr. Erb?

17 (No response)

18 Mr. Erb, you are free to go or stay if you
19 wish.

20 (The witness is excused)

21 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Kim Mitchell, I
22 promised you I would check in with you when we've been
23 going about an hour and fifteen minutes and see how
24 you're doing. We're not done but there are seven

1 remaining speakers on the list. And so if you'd like
2 we can take a short break.

3 COURT REPORTER: (Shakes head no).

4 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: You're good to go
5 through?

6 COURT REPORTER: (Motions a thumbs up).

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Okay.

8 Ms. Edmondson, let's go to the next witness.

9 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes. The IT staff has --

10 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Excuse me. I
11 should have asked my colleagues. I was rude enough --
12 as an old lawyer, I know the court reporter is the
13 important person but I should have asked my colleagues
14 as well whether anyone really needs a break right now
15 or if you can plow on.

16 Let's move on. Ms. Edmondson, call the next
17 witness.

18 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes, IT staff indicated to
19 me that they might -- that they wanted to go back and
20 check for Corey McVay, that they might have him on the
21 line.

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Do we have
23 Mr. McVay? John McCoy?

24 (No response)

1 I tell you what, Ms. Edmondson, we'll come
2 back. I'm going to go back through one last time. So
3 let's go to the next witness.

4 MS. EDMONDSON: All right. Then it will be
5 Brenda Newberry, Number 29.

6 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Newberry, are
7 you there?

8 MS. NEWBERRY: Hello, did you hear me?

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I hear you now.
10 Thank you very much, Ms. Newberry. Let's get you
11 sworn.

12 BREND A NEWBERRY;
13 having been duly affirmed,
14 testified as follows:

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
16 proceed.

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

18 Q Yes. Ms. Newberry, would you please state for
19 the record your name, address and electric
20 provider?

21 A Brenda Newberry, N-E-W-B-E-R-R-Y. My address is
22 15112 North Springs Drive, Charlotte 28277, and
23 Duke Energy is my provider.

24 Q Please make your statement.

1 A Thank you. So this is my first time speaking at
2 one of these hearings and I have really learned a
3 lot and concur with so much of what everybody
4 said.

5 I am going to tell a bit of a
6 personal story just in that I grew up in South
7 Carolina and enjoyed all outdoor activities like
8 swimming and playing in the woods. And then in
9 2016, I was fortunate to live in Taos, New Mexico
10 and teach children groups to ski for two winters
11 at Taos Ski Valley Resort. And by spending every
12 winter day outdoors in the beautiful southwest
13 mountains and having two extremely low snowfall
14 years, I experienced the potential cost of
15 disappearing winters.

16 When I moved back to Charlotte in
17 2018, I was more aware of climate issues and have
18 been studying the problem and possible solution
19 for about three years now, and I understand the
20 risk to all of our biosystems. So the risk is
21 not just recreation but life on the planet.
22 Making necessary changes is going to take deep
23 system changes and collective personal behavior
24 changes to accomplish what is in front of us and

1 reducing the use of fossil fuels is one of the
2 most significant impacts we can make.

3 When I read the Duke IRP to
4 prepare for this hearing, I attempted to chart a
5 set of goals laid out by Duke Energy side by side
6 with the Colorado Excel Power as an example of
7 another power company and then the North Carolina
8 climate goals, and even another set of ideal
9 transition goals that are more bold than any of
10 the above and have a better probability of
11 achieving the results we really want. So this
12 chart got complicated very quickly. And I just
13 want to, for now, point to the need for Duke
14 Energy's IRP to close coal plants by 2030 at the
15 latest, to add no fossil fuel infrastructure,
16 meaning no new fracked gas plants and shift
17 instead to solar, wind and storage, and to reach
18 that 70 percent clean energy goal by 2030 as
19 specified in Governor Cooper's Clean Energy Plan.
20 I also think the plan -- overall, we need to take
21 into account the financial cost of climate
22 impacts if we don't make these changes, and into
23 the health impacts of air pollution on the
24 physical and mental health of residents.

1 And I just want to end with
2 thanking the Commissioners for holding these
3 public hearings.

4 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
5 Ms. Newberry.

6 Does anyone have a question for
7 Ms. Newberry?

8 (No response)

9 Ms. Newberry, thank you for being with us
10 this evening.

11 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

12 (The witness is excused)

13 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson,
14 that will take you to the next witness.

15 MS. EDMONDSON: Witness 30 is Ben Goldberg.

16 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Goldberg, are
17 you out there?

18 MR. GOLDBERG: Yes, hello. Can you hear me?

19 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I can hear you
20 just fine. So let's get you sworn in.

21 BEN GOLDBERG;

22 having been duly affirmed,

23 testified as follows:

24 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

1 MS. EDMONDSON: Mr. Goldberg, would you
2 please state for the record your name, address and
3 electric provider?

4 A Yes. So my name is Ben Goldberg,
5 G-O-L-D-B-E-R-G. My address is 2507 West Woodrow
6 Street in Durham, North Carolina, and my
7 electricity provider is Duke Energy Carolinas.

8 Q Please make your statement.

9 A Okay. Hello, my name is Ben and I'm from Durham,
10 North Carolina, and I am a Duke Energy Carolinas
11 customer. I would like to thank the Commission
12 for holding this hearing.

13 As a 13-year-old watching the
14 destruction of my future due to climate change, I
15 see this IRP as a plan that is complicit in the
16 destruction of our home and our future. Duke
17 Energy needs to step up and become a leader in
18 renewable energy and affordable electricity.

19 We're in the middle of an
20 existential climate crisis. We can't continue to
21 build new fossil fuel infrastructure. We need to
22 transition to clean energy as fast as possible to
23 make sure that life on earth will have a future.

24 The only scenarios in the

1 Integrated Resource Plan have slightly reasonable
2 climate goals and rely on technology that has not
3 been created yet. By slightly reasonable climate
4 goals, I mean 70 percent CO2 reduction by 2035,
5 which is still significantly less than President
6 Biden's goal of 100 percent CO2 reduction by
7 2035. It's unacceptable for Duke Energy to base
8 a climate plan on imaginary technology that does
9 not exist yet when existing technology works
10 perfectly to achieve even more ambitious goals.
11 We can't gamble with the future of our planet.

12 None of the Integrated Resource
13 Plan scenarios have no coal and no gas by 2035.
14 We need to cut emissions as fast as possible and
15 that means shutting down coal and gas plants as
16 fast as possible. All of the scenarios outlined
17 in the IRP will increase customer's monthly bills
18 through no fault of their own.

19 Duke Energy includes no transition
20 plans for the workers and the communities
21 impacted by coal plant closures.

22 Duke Energy ignores methane
23 emissions in its plans. Methane is a greenhouse
24 gas that is 84 times more potent than carbon

1 dioxide, as I'm sure Duke Energy knows.

2 Duke Energy's base scenario with
3 the carbon policy only proposes about 15 percent
4 renewable energy by 2035. That's an increase of
5 only 0.6 percent per year and it's still less
6 than the -- than the industry average right now.
7 Duke Energy is planning to build over 9.6
8 gigawatts of new quote, unquote, natural gas
9 capacity by 2035 in multiple scenarios outlined
10 in the IRP.

11 We need to stop building new
12 fossil fuel infrastructure and switch to clean
13 energy, not receiving more CO2 in our atmosphere.
14 It's not even economical for Duke Energy to build
15 new gas and then shut it down. Duke Energy needs
16 to be legally bound to fall back on clean energy
17 and not build new gas and coal. Building and
18 investing in clean renewable energy will create
19 thousands of local jobs which are desperately
20 needed during this unemployment crisis, and it
21 will also lower customer's rates while protecting
22 our home.

23 Duke Energy needs to embrace
24 renewable energy fully and this IRP definitely

1 does not do that.

2 As a 13-year-old looking at this
3 Integrated Resource Plan, I realize that this
4 plan does not protect our future or the future of
5 generations to come. To protect utility
6 customers, our planet and our future, this IRP
7 needs to be rejected. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
9 Mr. Goldberg.

10 Are there any questions for Mr. Goldberg?

11 (No response)

12 Thank you, sir, for being with us this
13 evening. We appreciate very much your coming and
14 stating your views.

15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

16 (The witness is excused)

17 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

18 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes, the next witness,
19 Witness 31, is Amy Brooks Paradise.

20 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Paradise?

21 MS. PARADISE: Can you hear me?

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I can hear you
23 fine.

24 AMY BROOKS PARADISE;

1 having been duly affirmed,

2 testified as follows:

3 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson.

4 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

5 BY MS. EDMONDSON:

6 Q Ms. Brooks Paradise, please state your name,
7 address and electric provider for the record.

8 A Amy Brooks Paradise. I live at 16416 Beech Hill
9 Drive in Huntersville, and my energy provider is
10 Energy United.

11 Q Please make your statement.

12 A Thank you. Greetings to all the good people here
13 this evening and thank you for the opportunity to
14 speak.

15 My name is Amy Brooks Paradise and
16 I work with GreenFaith, a global faith
17 environmental and climate justice network. I'm
18 also a pastor and a parent. At GreenFaith we
19 understand that people and the earth are sacred
20 and at risk due to global climate change caused
21 by the use of fossil fuel.

22 In my work, I hear stories
23 everyday, like the people in the Village of
24 Kwasasi in Lamu, Kenya who are suffering from

1 proximity to coal plants. Or the high rate of
2 suicide among farmers in India who can no longer
3 support their families because the land is
4 depleted.

5 Closer to home, we are all aware
6 of the expanding fire season in California, the
7 bizarre freeze in Texas, and the increasing
8 number of hurricanes moving closer still. I am
9 sure we are all aware of the Colonial Pipeline
10 burst that spilled 1.2 million gallons of gas
11 into the Oehler Nature Preserve.

12 I looked up pipeline spills in the
13 U.S. and found this quote, *For natural gas alone,*
14 *the Pipeline Hazardous Material Safety*
15 *Administration has collected data on more than*
16 *3,200 accidents deemed significant since 1987.*
17 If you do the math, that's two accidents a week
18 for the last 33 years, just of natural gas. Not
19 a good option. And how do we account for the
20 damage to the earth, the water, the air, and the
21 resources vital to life on earth? When do we
22 consider the suffering of the people when their
23 lives are disrupted or loved ones die? And what
24 about the number of illnesses and lives lost due

1 to the burning of these fossil fuels once they
2 actually make it to their destinations? These
3 are the additional costs we are all paying when
4 we rely on fossil fuel to meet our energy needs
5 and they are the costs we will continue to pay
6 when we write and approve any plan that centers
7 fossil fuel for the foreseeable future.

8 My point is simply this: When
9 will we have the courage to say no and find the
10 moral, social, economic, and political will to
11 back it up?

12 I think the number of people who
13 are scheduled to speak demonstrates clearly that
14 we do not want to continue to live with the fear
15 of damaging pollution and a future cut short. So
16 often when we think about changing our energy
17 grid we think about what we will lose, but what
18 if we spent more time talking about what we would
19 gain. If we prioritize less harmful energy
20 sources that would become cheaper through broad
21 use, that would contribute to a healthier air,
22 land, water and food for all of us. What if we
23 could in the process create a more just, safer
24 and healthier world, new jobs and new ways to

1 make our planet and our future more promising for
2 all of us?

3 My family has made personal
4 financial commitments to this future by
5 installing solar panels on our home and driving
6 an electric vehicle. I am asking you as part of
7 this community to do your part. In my opinion, I
8 think all of us are asking that the Commission be
9 bold and not approve any plan that centers the
10 continued development and use of fossil fuel.

11 I join in asking you to say no.
12 And I ask Duke and Dominion to go back to the
13 drawing board to re-envision how they might
14 redeploy their financial resources and political
15 leverage to create the kind of plan our community
16 needs, and I believe you can deliver if you make
17 that your goal. We may not at this point have
18 everything we need to get there, but we do know
19 that when we can work together we can accomplish
20 much. So let's be bold and hold one another
21 accountable and capable to do the best job we can
22 for all people. It is the way forward and our
23 best hope for the future. Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 Ms. Paradise. Let's see if anyone has questions for
2 you.

3 (Pause).

4 All right. I'm not seeing any. So again,
5 thank you for staying with us and being with us
6 tonight. We appreciate it.

7 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

8 (The witness is excused)

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

10 MS. EDMONDSON: The next witness, Witness
11 32, is Andrew Meeker.

12 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Do we have Andrew
13 Meeker?

14 MR. MEEKER: Hi, can you hear me?

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: I can hear you
16 fine. Let's give you the oath.

17 ANDREW MEEKER;

18 having been duly affirmed,

19 testified as follows:

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

21 Q Mr Meeker, for the record, please state your
22 name, address and electric provider.

23 A My name is Andrew Meeker, last name is
24 M-E-E-K-E-R. I live at 45 Stoneridge Road in

1 Durham, North Carolina 27705, and I am a
2 ratepayer of Duke Energy Carolinas.

3 Q Please make your statement.

4 A Sorry, I didn't hear that, it broke up.

5 Q I'm sorry. Would you please go ahead and make
6 your statement?

7 A I'm going to proceed then. So I would like to
8 thank the Commission and the staff for taking my
9 testimony. And I also really want to uplift and
10 appreciate all the other testimonies, which I
11 think brought up a lot of really important points
12 that I would like to be able to expand upon. And
13 I also apologize, my concentration is not at best
14 as earlier this morning I got my second dose of
15 the Covid vaccine and I'm beginning to feel its
16 impact as this call is proceeding.

17 So I'm going to direct my comments
18 mainly towards Duke Energy as I'm subject to
19 their rates in order to meet my basic needs, but
20 I expect most of the comments would apply very
21 well to the other utilities being considered,
22 whose IRP's are being considered.

23 So I'm calling because I care
24 deeply about life on earth in general. I am also

1 calling because I have a new motivation as I'm
2 going to become a parent for the first time
3 sometime within the next three months. I not
4 only want a liveable future for myself and the
5 one I love, but I also want to ensure that I can
6 be alive on this planet for my child as long as
7 I'm able to be. And I also want to know that my
8 child will live in a world that is not only
9 environmentally safe but where meeting their
10 basic needs does not require harmful consequences
11 for themselves or their neighbors.

12 So I think as other folks have
13 spoken to in their testimonies, we're all quite
14 aware of and heard the consequences posed by
15 climate change fueled by the burning of fossil
16 fuels, but I recently heard in an interview with
17 a climate and energy policy expert that energy
18 generation from burning fossil fuels reduces life
19 expectancy in this country by about two years due
20 to air pollution alone. That's not counting the
21 other impacts of climate change. And this really
22 struck me because that's two years that I could
23 be a parent to my forthcoming child which is on
24 the hook based on decisions made by Duke

1 executives concerned about their corporation's
2 profit margin. That's two more years that my
3 child will be able to enjoy our Piedmont home
4 here in central North Carolina. And that's --
5 this is a very rough math, but that's roughly
6 two million years of life across the population
7 in North Carolina, due to air pollution alone,
8 again not counting the increasingly detrimental
9 and far-reaching consequences of climate change.

10 So I believe I was a UNC masters
11 student in a class of Commissioner Hughes when I
12 learned how roughly how the rates were set for
13 the state sanctioned energy utility monopoly.
14 And I believe Duke is able to recoup a return on
15 investment and a significant return on investment
16 only when it builds out new energy
17 infrastructure. And if I understand this
18 correctly, it creates kind of a perverse
19 incentive for Duke Energy to expand out expensive
20 and unnecessary infrastructure, and so it's no
21 wonder that it would propose such massive
22 expansion of fracked gas generation while our
23 globe is on the brink of climate and economical
24 chaos.

1 Effectively, me and other
2 ratepayers across the State are being subjected
3 to the pollution from those generation plants and
4 we're paying a premium on it in order to increase
5 the wealth of Duke's stockholders. And so I'd
6 ask the Commission how is that permissible as the
7 body that is in charge of looking after the
8 wellbeing of ratepayers across the State.

9 And so I believe that we need an
10 Integrated Resource Plan for our state utilities
11 that is based on science and not necessarily --
12 and what science says is necessary for us to have
13 a livable planet and not based on how Duke can
14 kind of leverage these perverse incentives for
15 our state's utility regulation.

16 And so people have referenced
17 Cooper's Executive Order 80 and Biden's plan, and
18 there's also in 2018 the IPCC, the
19 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, that
20 had a special report on kind of moving out what's
21 required to keep the globe below 1.5 degrees
22 Celsius warming that would be a lot of
23 consequences would happen beyond that, and it's
24 net zero by 2050, and I believe Professor Erb

1 spoke to that. We need to have the vast majority
2 of that low-hanging fruit happen immediately.
3 And I've heard various numbers thrown out, but
4 about 80 percent by 2030, because that last
5 20 percent is going to be the most difficult to
6 transition to renewable energy and would take the
7 following 20 years. And so it's unconscionable
8 to me that Duke would consider not immediately
9 retiring a coal plant when they haven't even been
10 able to safely clean up their coal ash dumps
11 across the State.

12 I appreciate an earlier caller who
13 outlined so clearly that she's a coal --

14 (Timer).

15 I have a friend in Goldsboro who
16 has to live with the harmful impacts of a coal
17 ash dump in their back yard, and that's just one
18 of several across the State.

19 As a parent, I will expect my
20 child to be able to clean up after themselves
21 before they can create another mess. And then
22 again, I would also expect my child never to do
23 anything that would be so harmful to our
24 neighbors.

1 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Meeker, I'm
2 going to ask -- Mr. Meeker, I'm going to have to ask
3 you to wrap up because you've gone over your time.

4 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: We appreciate it.
6 You might get a question or two. We'll see if you get
7 a question or two, but we appreciate your coming to
8 speak tonight.

9 THE WITNESS: I appreciate the Commissioners
10 and staff for taking my testimony.

11 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let's see, are
12 there any questions for Mr. Meeker?

13 (No response)

14 Not even from Commissioner Hughes.
15 Mr. Meeker, thank you very much and congratulations on
16 your upcoming family addition.

17 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much. Thanks
18 to the Commission.

19 (The witness is excused)

20 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

21 MS. EDMONDSON: Witness 33 is Christine
22 Tepper.

23 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Do we have
24 Christine Tepper?

1 MS. TEPPER: Yes, this is Christine.

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you.

3 CHRISTINE TEPPER;

4 having been duly affirmed,

5 testified as follows:

6 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson.

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

8 Q Yes, Ms. Tepper, for the record please provide
9 your name, address and electric provider.

10 A My name is Christine Tepper. I live at 104
11 Lakeview Drive in Greenville. And my electric
12 provider is Greenville Utilities Corporation.

13 Q And would you please make your statement?

14 A Yes. Thank up for this opportunity. And I'm so
15 impressed with everybody that has spoken before
16 me. This is my first time speaking before such a
17 Commission. What I have to say is very short and
18 simple in that I believe that Duke Energy should
19 put more focus on transitioning to clean
20 renewable energy sources like wind and solar
21 power, as well as energy efficiency programs when
22 it is essential for our planet and all creatures
23 great and small that greenhouse gases be reduced
24 if not eliminated entirely. It is a crime

1 against humanity and a sin against God's creation
2 to plan for a massive build-out of new fracked
3 gas burning power plants. Please, please stop
4 this assault on life. Thank you for listening.

5 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
6 Ms. Tepper.

7 Are there questions for Ms. Tepper?

8 (Pause).

9 Seeing none, Ms. Tepper, thank you for being
10 with us this evening. You are free to stay or go.

11 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

12 (The witness is excused)

13 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

14 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes, it does not appear that
15 Witness 34, Andy McGlinn has called in.

16 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. McGlinn, are
17 you there?

18 (No response)

19 If not then, Ms. Edmondson?

20 MS. EDMONDSON: And we have two numbers I
21 think at the end we're going to need to check, but the
22 last one, Cathy Scott, 35, I do believe she's on the
23 line.

24 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: All right.

1 Ms. Scott?

2 MS. SCOTT: Hello. Hi.

3 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Great. Let's give
4 you the oath.

5 CATHY SCOTT;

6 having been duly affirmed,

7 testified as follows:

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

9 Q Ms. Scott, for the record, would you please state
10 your name, address and electric provider?

11 A Yes, my name is Cathy, C-A-T-H-Y, Scott
12 S-C-O-T-T, 53 Mount Olive Church Road, Asheville,
13 North Carolina 28804, and my provider is Duke
14 Energy Progress.

15 Q And would you please make your statement?

16 A Yes. First of all, thank you to all of the
17 Commissioners who are on this call and for
18 holding these public hearings. I am really glad
19 that you're here because as Commissioners you are
20 in a pivotal position. You evaluate Duke Energy
21 Progress' business plan. You decide is the plan
22 sound; is it responsible; will it deliver the
23 goods; on balance, will the benefits and services
24 it provides to its customers outweigh any harm

1 that it causes to its customers and to our shared
2 environment; is Duke Energy doing the job it was
3 contracted by the State of North Carolina to do.
4 That's your responsibility, continuously
5 evaluating every two years, is Duke Energy up to
6 the job we've asked it to do.

7 I have been speaking at Duke
8 Energy IRP hearings for over a decade and I don't
9 think Duke is showing itself to be up to the job.
10 I think their business plan is delusional.
11 Any electric utility that's not moving off fossil
12 fuels as fast as they can is not working with
13 reality. Reality tells us the fossilized
14 materials we use as fuel have to be left
15 underground. We need a clean source of fuel to
16 generate electricity.

17 We know that both nationally and
18 on a state level timelines have been set for
19 reaching zero emission goals. Duke Energy is set
20 to run head long into those goals. Where will
21 that leave the Company and its shareholders?
22 What will be the value of the fossil-fueled
23 facilities that their IRP has been building?
24 Where will we, Duke Energy's electricity

1 customers, be when our public utility crashes?
2 How will the State of North Carolina make up the
3 time lost when our public utility was not engaged
4 in research and development around clean fuel,
5 battery storage, and a modern grid?

6 I hope you, the Commissioners,
7 will feel a renewed sense of responsibility to
8 all of us North Carolinians who are counting on
9 you. Please look at this IRP with new eyes. See
10 if it is taking us where we need to be this year
11 and every year from here on out.

12 Thank you very, very much for
13 holding this hearing. And I appreciate the work
14 that you do as Commissioners. And I just can't
15 emphasize enough what an important position you
16 are in in setting the course for the future.

17 Thanks.

18 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you,
19 Ms. Scott.

20 Are there questions for Ms. Scott?

21 (No response)

22 Ms. Scott, thank you for being with us this
23 evening.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

1 (The witness is excused)

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson, I'm
3 going to suggest that at this point we take a very
4 short break and let Mr. McCoy and you see if we can
5 identify whether any of the witnesses that we passed
6 over earlier when we called them because they weren't
7 with us, if any of them have appeared and are now
8 available. And then we'll come back and if you've
9 found any of those witnesses, if they've shown up now
10 or joined us late, then we'll take those witnesses.
11 If not, we'll conclude the hearing for the evening.

12 So let's -- it's 7:43, everyone who's on
13 Webex -- if you're on the phone stay on the phone so
14 Mr. McCoy can try to identify you and see if you are
15 one of our registered speakers. If you're on Webex,
16 please put your phone on -- your video on -- stop your
17 video and mute your audio. And we'll come back at
18 7:50 p.m., 7:50 p.m. Okay. Thank you.

19 (A recess was taken from 7:43 p.m.
20 until 7:50 p.m.)

21 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let's check in,
22 Ms. Edmondson, and see do we have any of the callers
23 that we missed earlier. Do we have any of them with
24 us?

1 MS. EDMONDSON: I believe we've identified
2 two. I'll check with Mr. McCoy. I believe we have
3 Corey McVay and Bob Rodriguez. And I think there's
4 one more unidentified.

5 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: All right.

6 MR. MCCOY: That is correct.

7 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. McCoy, while
8 you are attempting to identify that third line --

9 Ms. Edmondson, we said we would take them in
10 the order of the sign up so let's go to Mr. Rodriguez
11 first and let's get Mr. Rodriguez unmuted.

12 Mr. Rodriguez, are you there?

13 (No response)

14 Mr. Rodriguez, if you're there I cannot hear
15 you.

16 Mr. McCoy --

17 MR. MCCOY: Sir, he just dropped off.

18 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: He dropped off?

19 MR. MCCOY: Yes, sir.

20 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Let's see if Corey
21 McVay is there. Mr. McVay, can you hear me?

22 MR. McVAY: This is Corey McVay, can you
23 hear me?

24 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: We can. Success.

1 Thank you. Thank you for sticking with it.

2 MR. McVAY: Thank you all.

3 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. McVay, let me
4 give you the oath and then we'll hear your testimony.

5 COREY McVAY;

6 having been duly affirmed,

7 testified as follows:

8 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson.

9 MS. EDMONDSON: Yes.

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

11 Q Could you please state your name, address and
12 electric provider?

13 A Yes. My name is Corey McVay, C-O-R-E-Y M-C-,
14 capital V-, A-Y. My address is 300 Smith Knolls
15 Road, Fairview, North Carolina, zip code 28730,
16 and the provider is Duke Energy Progress.

17 Q And would you please make your statement?

18 A Hello. My name is Corey McVay and I'm a resident
19 of Asheville, North Carolina and a customer of
20 Duke Energy Progress.

21 I'd like to thank the North
22 Carolina Utilities Commission for holding this
23 hearing to allow a space for the public to make
24 their voices heard.

1 I've grown up in western North
2 Carolina and I'm currently a student at UNC
3 Asheville pursuing a degree in applied math. My
4 family has been a customer of Progress Energy,
5 now Duke Energy Progress, for my entire life.
6 I'm asking that the Duke team go back to the
7 drawing board for their IRP and truly put more
8 effort into choosing sustainable, renewable and
9 equitable solutions to tackle the energy needs of
10 the next 15 years and beyond.

11 The current proposals only
12 potentially meet North Carolina climate goals in
13 two of the six scenarios, and none of the
14 scenarios meet the national goal for carbon-free
15 electricity by 2035.

16 Progress can be made towards these
17 goals if renewable energy such as solar PV is
18 implemented across the region, a solution that is
19 not only better to the environment, to the air we
20 breathe, the water we drink, and the food we eat,
21 but is also ultimately much more cost-effective.

22 As mentioned in multiple previous
23 statements, Duke plans to draw only 15 percent of
24 its energy from renewable sources, piling in

1 comparison to the current national average of
2 19.8 percent renewable energy. With the addition
3 of more reliable renewable energy sources to the
4 grid, Duke's customers can potentially be
5 relieved of some economic burden as well.

6 In my family, I can say that to
7 save money on our monthly Duke Power bill we
8 would put on extra layers and blankets in the
9 winter before ever turning the heat on and rarely
10 turn the air conditioning on in the summers. I
11 know in many other families serviced by Duke
12 these tough decisions aren't simply about
13 comfort, especially in the wake of a global
14 pandemic.

15 The proposed rate hike is just one
16 of the many ways in which customers will suffer
17 if the current plan is approved. Duke has the
18 responsibility to honor customers' needs and the
19 environment in which they provide services with
20 their future plans.

21 I ask that the North Carolina
22 Utilities Commission send Duke back to the
23 drawing board to devise more scenarios that
24 includes significant renewable energy sources,

1 reduction of greenhouse gases, closing down
2 current coal and gas plants, and table the
3 scenarios that include any of these new fracked
4 gas or coal plants. I implore you to place the
5 necessary importance on customers' needs and
6 wishes without unnecessary rate hikes.

7 And I would also like to add that
8 I fully support all of the previous statements
9 that have been made this evening. Thank you for
10 your time and consideration.

11 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you for
12 bearing with us tonight while we worked through the
13 technology.

14 Let's see if there are any questions for
15 Corey.

16 (No response)

17 Thank you. And as again with your colleague
18 at UNC Asheville, good luck on your studies.

19 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much. Have a
20 good evening.

21 (The witness is excused)

22 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

23 MS. EDMONDSON: I think Mr. Rodriguez may be
24 back with us.

1 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Can you hear me now?

2 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Mr. Rodriguez, is
3 that you?

4 MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's me. Can you guys
5 hear me?

6 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: That's great.
7 We've got you. You're coming in good now. So let's
8 swear you in.

9 ROBERT RODRIGUEZ;
10 having been duly affirmed,
11 testified as follows:

12 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson?

13 MS. EDMONDSON: Mr. Rodriguez, I've never
14 known you to miss an IRP hearing so I'm glad you're
15 here.

16 THE WITNESS: (Laughing).

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. EDMONDSON:

18 Q Would you please give me your name, address and
19 electric provider?

20 A Yes, ma'am, Ms. Edmondson. My name is Robert,
21 last name Rodriguez, R-O-D-R-I-G-U-E-Z. My
22 address is 2400 Countrywood Road. That's all one
23 word, Country and Wood together, Road, Raleigh,
24 and my provider is Duke Progress.

1 Q And please make your statement.

2 A Well, first of all, thank you all very much for
3 the opportunity to speak. And I'm actually
4 setting my timer to count down, which is sort of
5 a metaphor in terms for all of us. Really, for
6 who is the clock counting down, for whom the bell
7 tolls, for whom the clock tolls.

8 And I'll just simply say that I'm
9 a concerned citizen. I'm also a person of faith.
10 I think as a moral aspect of this, but I'm also a
11 business person and I'm also a member of the
12 North Carolina Interfaith Power and Light and the
13 Interfaith Creation Chair of the Triangle, among
14 other things. But the key thing is I'm just
15 going to -- I will submit some written statements
16 with more details but I want to focus in on just
17 three things.

18 And I think the key -- the first
19 thing is that I have looked at the IRP and I must
20 say that the work that Duke has done to be able
21 to bring down CO2 in the last 10 years, I think
22 from 2005 to 2019, something in the order of a
23 38 percent reduction, that is admirable.

24 I think of the scenarios that have

1 been presented the one that I find we have to be
2 going at least the starting point is the
3 70 percent reduction and that would be in my mind
4 the high winds, simply because wind technology
5 both offshore and onshore is a proven technology.
6 It works. And I would just click -- I just
7 checked on the internet to see how many suppliers
8 are out there and my last count was something
9 over 40, greater than that, so it's something
10 that's off the shelf we can get going. It can be
11 done and is being done all over the world.

12 My concern is that in addition to
13 that scenario we still have a thing called
14 incidental gas -- incremental gas, excuse me, and
15 that exposure to fossil fuels is the thing that
16 really concerns me. The fact that in one of the
17 scenarios you had the analysis where you had a
18 carbon pricing. Well, I think the carbon pricing
19 that was done, and this was on page, I think 153,
20 151, for \$5 to \$7 per ton is woefully inadequate.
21 I've seen numbers and I'm going to reference the
22 *Scientific American* where the Biden
23 Administration was using numbers of around \$51
24 per ton. Also, \$1500 a ton per methane and

1 \$18,000 per ton for nitrous oxide. I've also
2 seen work from *The Guardian*. Also, in articles
3 from *The Guardian* from author Dana Nuccitelli
4 talking about costs in the area of \$100 to \$200
5 per ton. But the one that got my attention was
6 the work that done by the University of Chicago,
7 an article by Louise Lerner, L-E-R-N-E-R, and
8 this was on September the 9th of 2020, last year,
9 by the work of Dr. David Archer where he contends
10 strongly that the price for carbon is something
11 closer to \$100,000 per ton. And this is taking
12 into effect the greater damage that will be
13 caused by beaches lost and other catastrophes.
14 But the other aspect of it is that by the very
15 nature of financial modeling that the discount
16 rate kind of pushes, shoves everything to the
17 front. But the fact of the matter is ideally
18 we're going to be living here more than a hundred
19 years or 200 years or 500 years or a 1000.
20 That's the point.

21 So what I am saying is that my
22 deep concern is that what we're going to do is
23 set up a thing called, like as the Rocky Mount
24 Institute said, is a situation for grid

1 defection, that is, the price of carbon is
2 factored into electricity: (a) those communities
3 who don't have the wherewithal, the financial
4 wherewithal to protect themselves - either get
5 off the grid entirely, or significantly reduce
6 their exposure are going to be in trouble; or (b)
7 that we're not going to -- that this price is
8 going to cause people to leave or those
9 communities are going to be taking the brunt of
10 the additional costs.

11 So the things I would recommend
12 tonight would be a doubling down on energy
13 efficiency. I think that has been underutilized
14 in the IRP. And just to give an example, putting
15 our money where our mouth is for our own home
16 we've been able to reduce permanently about
17 40 percent by just doing weatherization,
18 insulation, sealing of crawl spaces, and we've
19 also added mild solar generation capability as
20 well. So we had something in the order of a
21 50 percent reduction let's say for a house built
22 in 1977.

23 So, in summary, I don't envy the
24 challenges you have but the thing is we have to

1 do better, and as the time is running out here,
2 this is kind of a metaphor in terms of that. You
3 all have a great responsibility --

4 (Timer).

5 -- and I don't envy it but I wish
6 you to think for seven generations and think for
7 those come behind us. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Thank you.

9 Are there questions for Mr. Rodriguez
10 tonight?

11 (No response)

12 Mr. Rodriguez, thanks for sticking with us
13 so we could get you connected.

14 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Commissioner.

15 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Ms. Edmondson, I
16 think that completes the callers we have, correct?

17 MS. EDMONDSON: That's my understanding.

18 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: Then we will end
19 for the evening. Let me say to those who might be
20 following us on YouTube that if you want to continue
21 to follow these hearings on YouTube, go to the
22 Commission's website and you'll find the link there.
23 The next session of the public witness testimony will
24 be this coming Monday, that's the 19th if my calendar

1 memory serves me correctly, and we'll again start at
2 6:00 p.m. So if you're interested in following us on
3 YouTube it will be, the next session will be Monday
4 the 19th at 6:00 p.m.

5 Unless the parties have some further
6 business we need to take up?

7 (Pause).

8 Seeing none, then we are adjourned for the
9 evening.

10 Thanks everybody for your cooperation and
11 working through this remote technology. I think it
12 was done very well. I appreciate your attendance. I
13 thank everyone.

14 (The proceedings were adjourned)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, KIM T. MITCHELL, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that
the Proceedings in the above-captioned matter were
taken before me, that I did report in stenographic
shorthand the Proceedings set forth herein, and the
foregoing pages are a true and correct transcription
to the best of my ability.

Kim Mitchell

Kim Mitchell