

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION STAFF CONFERENCE

May 30, 2023

The Regular Commission Staff Conference of the North Carolina Utilities Commission was held on Monday, May 30, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., with Chair Mitchell presiding.

The following were present:

COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Brown-Bland
Commissioner Clodfelter
Commissioner Duffley
Commissioner Hughes
Commissioner McKissick
Commissioner Kemerait

COMMISSION STAFF: Mr. Watson, Mr. Green, Ms. Fennell, Ms. Jarvis, Ms. Hicks, Ms. Hilburn, Mr. Barber, Ms. Jayasheela, Ms. Forrest; Mr. Barley; Mr. Keshar; Ms. Winstead; Mr. Hardy, Mr. McCoy

PUBLIC STAFF: Mr. Ayers, Ms. Edmondson, Ms. Jost, Mr. Creech, Mr. Freeman, Ms. Keyworth, Mr. Bernier; Ms. Boswell, Ms. Johnson, Mr. McLawhorn, Mr. Floyd, Ms. Patel, Mr. Lawrence

ATTORNEY GENERAL:

COURT REPORTER: Ms. Mitchell

ELECTRIC*CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY***Duke Energy Progress, LLC**

1. Docket No. SP-47677, Sub 0 – Application of Shady Grove Solar, LLC, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity and registration statement to construct an 80 MW solar photovoltaic generating facility in Onslow County, North Carolina (*Lawrence/Keyworth*)

On October 19, 2022, Shady Grove Solar, LLC (Applicant), filed an application seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1(a) for construction of an 80 MW solar photovoltaic generating facility to be located on the west side of Five Mile Road, south of the intersection with Swan Lane and west of the intersection with Cherry Ridge Court, in Richlands, Onslow County, North Carolina. The Applicant plans to sell the electricity to Duke Energy Progress, LLC.

Contemporaneously with the Application, the Applicant filed a registration statement for a new renewable energy facility.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the application and determined it to be in compliance with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1(a) and Commission Rule R8-64. The Public Staff further stated that the registration statement contains the certified attestations required by Commission Rule R8-66(b).

The Public Staff recommended approval of the certificate and registration for the facility.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

NATURAL GAS*INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT RATE ADJUSTMENT***Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**

2. Docket No. G-9, Sub 829 – Application of PNG for a biannual adjustment to its rates under Appendix E of its Service Regulations (*Patel/Johnson/Jost*)

On January 6, 2022, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 781, the Commission approved the continuation of an Integrity Management Rider (IMR) mechanism for Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont or Company), which is Appendix E of Piedmont's North Carolina Service Regulations (IMR Mechanism). The IMR Mechanism requires that Piedmont file with the Commission every October 31st and April 30th the computation of the Integrity Management Revenue Requirement (IMRR) that forms the basis for the bi-annual rate adjustment of the IMR. Piedmont is also required to file for approval of bi-annual

adjustments to its rates to take effect every December 1st and June 1st based on qualifying capital investments in integrity and safety projects as of the preceding October 31st and March 31st, respectively.

On April 28, 2023, Piedmont filed the computation for the IMRR bi-annual rate adjustment effective June 1, 2023, based on the Company's Integrity Management (IM) Plant Investment through March 31, 2023. In addition, the Company proposed a true-up rate adjustment effective June 1, 2023, for the IM Deferred Account based on the actual account balance as of March 31, 2023.

The Public Staff stated it had reviewed the application, and the proposed IM rate adjustments.

The Public Staff recommended approval as filed.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

The Minutes of the Regular Commission Staff Conference of May 22, 2023, were approved.

Freda Hilburn, Director of the Commission Staff Operations Division, introduced the following new staff members: 1) Jon Barley, Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst II; 2) Adi Keskar, Engineer III; and 3) Ann Winstead, Public Utilities, Regulatory Analyst I.

Michelle Boswell, Director of the Public Staff's Accounting Division, introduced new staff member Meredith Strickland, Accountant.

Lucy Edmondson, Chief Counsel for the Public Staff, introduced new staff member James Bernier, Staff Attorney.

James McLawhorn, Director of the Public Staff's Energy Division acknowledged the passing of Scott Saillor, Utilities Engineer.

Minutes prepared by Le Anne Ackerman.