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**State of North Carolina  
Utilities Commission**

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**SEP 10 2018**

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**Clerk's Office  
N.C. Utilities Commission**

September 10, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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**RE: DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1175**

Dear Counsel:

On June 20, 2018, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP) filed its application and supporting testimony in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1175 for recovery of its costs of compliance with North Carolina's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS). On pages 22-28 of the direct testimony of Megan W. Jennings, witness Jennings discusses DEC's subscription to research programs provided by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). Witness Jennings states that the cost of these subscriptions was recovered by DEP as a portion of DEP's REPS rider. In addition, confidential Jennings Exhibit No. 2 states the total REPS research costs incurred by DEP for research provided by all sources from April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018, and DEP's projected total REPS research costs from December 1, 2018, through November 30, 2019.

The purpose of this letter is to advise the parties on the record, pursuant to Canon 3D of the North Carolina Judicial Code, that in February 2015 Chairman Edward S. Finley, Jr. was appointed to serve on the Advisory Council to the Board of Directors of EPRI. The Advisory Council provides suggestions and advice to the EPRI Board of Directors, but it does not make decisions concerning the operation of EPRI. Those decisions are made by the EPRI Board.

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Re: Docket No. E-2, Sub 1175

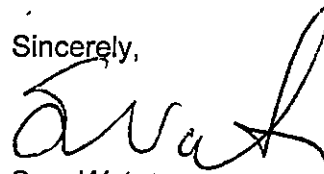
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In addition, the purpose of this letter is to inform the parties that the Commission does not believe that Chairman Finley's role as a member of the EPRI Advisory Council presents a material or substantial conflict with Chairman Finley's ability to fulfill his duties in this docket. As a result, the Commission requests, pursuant to Canon 3D of the North Carolina Judicial Code, that on or before September 18, 2018, counsel for the parties verify in writing that they have received notice of this potential conflict, and agree that it is not substantial or material and that Chairman Finley may participate in this proceeding.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Watson", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Sam Watson  
General Counsel

cc: Edward S. Finley, Jr., Chairman