

Lawrence B. Somers Deputy General Counsel

Mailing Address: NCRH 20 / P.O. Box 1551 Raleigh, NC 27602

> o: **919.546.6722** f: **919.546.2694**

bo.somers@duke-energy.com

November 9, 2015

### VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Gail L. Mount, Chief Clerk North Carolina Utilities Commission 4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

### RE: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC's Objection to NC WARN's Motion to Seek Leave to File Comments Docket No. E-100, Sub 141

Dear Ms. Mount:

I enclose Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ("DEC") and Duke Energy Progress, LLC's ("DEP") Objection to NC WARN's Motion to Seek Leave to File Comments for filing in connection with the referenced matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Lawrence B. Somers'

Enclosure

cc: Parties of Record

## OFFICIAL COPY

## Nov 09 2015

### BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

### DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 141

In the Matter of

2015 Integrated Resource Plan Update Reports and Related 2015 REPS Compliance Plans DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC AND DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, LLC'S OBJECTION TO NC WARN'S MOTION TO SEEK LEAVE TO FILE COMMENTS

NOW COME Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ("DEC") and Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("DEP") (collectively the "Companies") pursuant to North Carolina Utilities Commission ("Commission") Rule R8-60 and R1-7 and respond to the North Carolina Waste Awareness and Reduction Network's ("NC WARN") November 2, 2015 Motion to Seek Leave to File Comments as follows:

)

Commission Rule R8-60 requires the Companies to furnish the Commission a biennial Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") report in even-numbered years that contains the specific information set out in Commission Rule R8-60. In odd-numbered years, the Companies must file an annual report updating the Companies' most recently filed biennial reports. Consistent with Commission Rule R8-60(j), DEC and DEP filed their 2015 IRP Update Reports on September 1, 2015.

Unlike the process for comment on the biennial reports, Commission Rule R8-60(1) only allows intervenors to file comments on the IRP update reports if leave is granted from the Commission. Furthermore, such intervenor update report comments shall be allowed "only if the Commission deems it necessary" and, if so, limited to such scope of issues identified by the Commission. In its Motion to Seek Leave to File Comments ("NC WARN Motion"), NC WARN asserts that it is an intervenor in this docket, has filed comments in previous Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") dockets, and claims that the comments it seeks to file "will assist the Commission in its analysis of the IRPs by pointing out several areas requiring closer scrutiny." (Motion at  $\P$ 1). Instead of waiting for the Commission to rule upon its Motion, however, NC WARN filed substantive comments on the Companies' 2015 IRP Update Reports within its Motion and attached an updated version of the same report<sup>1</sup> it has filed in the past several IRP dockets.

The Companies assert that NC WARN has shown no compelling reason why they should be allowed to file these comments because the NC WARN Motion and Comments simply restate the very same meritless opinions and allegations that they have filed in this docket and in previous IRP dockets, and which have consistently been rejected by the Commission. For example, in Docket No. E-100, Sub 137 ("2013 IRP"), the Commission in its June 30, 2014 Order Approving Integrated Resource Plan Annual Update Reports and REPS Compliance Plans approved the Companies' IRPs and did not adopt any recommendations put forth by NC WARN in its comments in the docket.

Likewise, in response to the Companies' biennial 2014 IRPs, NC WARN filed initial comments on February 20, 2015 and requested an evidentiary hearing. In its 2014 IRP comments and report, NC WARN challenged the Companies' load forecasts, asserted that there is excess capacity in the Companies' generation systems and in the region, and that NC WARN's allegedly superior alternate energy future could be achieved by eliminating all existing coal plants and all new generation. The Companies filed reply comments responding to NC WARN stating that NC WARN was essentially restating the same arguments made in the 2013 IRP proceeding and that these arguments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NC WARN's "A Responsible Energy Future for North Carolina."

Nov 09 2015

had been rejected by the Commission. In rejecting NC WARN's 2014 IRP comments, the Commission, in its June 26, 2015 Order Approving Integrated Resource Plans and REPS Compliance Plans ("2015 IRP Order") stated that while an intervenor had the right to file an IRP of its own, the IRP of the intervenor should conform to the information and analytic requirements of Commission Rule R8-60(c)(i). The Commission then concluded that, "To the extent NC WARN intended for its comments to be construed as an alternative IRP for Duke, the Commission finds and concludes that NC WARN's proposal was inadequate with respect to data, modeling and analysis." 2015 IRP Order at p. 13.

Commission Rule R8-60(1) allows intervenors to file "an update report of its own as to any utility." The Companies contend that the report attached to NC WARN's Motion contains the same rejected arguments set forth by NC WARN in this and previous IRP dockets, does not even attempt to conform to the requirements of Commission Rule R8-60(c)(i), and will in no way assist the Commission in this proceeding. Furthermore, on page 2 of its report, NC WARN asserts that it filed a complaint with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") in December 2014 making the same claim about the Companies' allegedly excessive capacity. NC WARN fails to reveal, however, that the FERC categorically rejected NC WARN's arguments and dismissed NC WARN's complaint in its April 30, 2015 order.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, there is no reason these comments by NC WARN should be accepted into the record in this proceeding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> N.C. Waste Awareness and Reduction Network v. Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC et al., 115 FERC ¶ 61,079 (2015). NC WARN's request for rehearing of this FERC order is pending.

Nov 09 2015

request that the Commission deny NC WARN's Motion to Seek Leave to File Comments and not accept the attachment contained therein into the record in this docket.

This the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, the Companies respectfully

Lawrence B. Somers Deputy General Counsel Duke Energy Corporation P. O. Box 1551 Raleigh, North Carolina 27602 Telephone: 919.546.6722 bo.somers@duke-energy.com

Robert W. Kaylor Law Office of Robert W. Kaylor, P.A. 353 E. Six Forks Road, Suite 260 Raleigh, NC 27609 919 828 5250 <u>bkaylor@rwkaylorlaw.com</u>

Counsel for Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC

# OFFICIAL COPY

## Nov 09 2015

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC's Objection to NC WARN's Motion to Seek Leave to File Comments in Docket No. E-100, Sub 141, has been served by electronic mail, hand delivery or by depositing a copy in the United States mail, postage prepaid to the following parties of record:

Steve Blanchard Public Works Comm.-City of Fayetteville PO Box 1089 Fayetteville, NC 28302-1089 <u>steve.blanchard@faypwc.com</u>

Sharon Miller Carolina Utility Customer Association, Inc. 1708 Trawick Road, Suite 210 Raleigh, NC 27604 <u>smiller@cucainc.org</u>

Robert Page Crisp, Page & Currin, LLP 410 Barrett Dr., Suite 205 Raleigh, NC 27609-6622 <u>rpage@cpclaw.com</u>

W. Mark Griffith Electricities of North Carolina 1427 Meadow Wood Blvd. Raleigh, NC 27604 mgriffith@electricities.org

Mark Calvert Tennessee Valley Authority 400 West Summitt Hill Dr. – WT 6A-K Knoxville, TN 37902-1401 <u>mscalvert@tva.gov</u> Charles Guerry Halifax EMC PO Box 667 Enfield, NC 27823-0667 cguerry@halifaxemc.com

Antoinette R. Wike Chief Counsel - Public Staff North Carolina Utilities Commission 4326 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4326 <u>antoinette.wike@psncuc.nc.gov</u>

Horace Payne Dominion North Carolina Power PO Box 26532 Richmond, VA 23261 horace.p.payne@dom.com

H. Wayne Wilkins Energy United EMC PO Box 1831 Statesville, NC 28687-1831 wayne.wilkins@energyunited.com

John Runkle 2121 Damascus Church Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516 junkle@pricecreek.com

Nov 09 2015

Daniel Whittle Environmental Defense 40000 Westchase Boulevard, Suite 510 Raleigh, NC 27607-2965 <u>dwhittle@ed.org</u>

Gudrun Thompson Southern Environmental Law Center 601 West Rosemary Street, Suite 220 Chapel Hill, NC 27516-2356 <u>gthompson@selcnc.org</u>

Ralph McDonald Adam Olls Bailey & Dixon, L.L.P. Post Office Box 1351 Raleigh, NC27602-1351 <u>rmcdonald@bdixon.com</u> <u>aolls@bdixon.com</u>

Michael Youth NC Sustainable Energy Assn. 4800 Six Forks Road, Suite 300 Raleigh, NC 27609 <u>michael@energync.org</u>

Charlotte A. Mitchell Law Office of Charlotte Mitchell PO Box 26212 Raleigh, NC 27611 <u>cmitchell@lawofficecm.com</u>

This is the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.

Peter H. Ledford NC Sustainable Energy Association 4800 Six Forks Road, Suite 300 Raleigh, NC 27609 peter@energync.org

John J. Finnigan, Jr. Environmental Defense Fund 128 Winding Brook Lane Terrace Park, OH 45174 <u>jfinnigan@edf.org</u>

Brett Breitschwerdt McGuire Woods, LLP 434 Fayetteville Street, Suite 2600 Raleigh, NC 27601 bbreitschwerdt@mcguirewoods.com

Richard Feathers NCEMC PO Box 27306 Raleigh, NC 27611-7306 rick.feathers@ncemcs.com

James West West Law Offices Two Hannover Square, Suite 2325 434 Fayetteville St. Raleigh, NC 27601 jpwest@westlawpc.com

Lawrence B. Somers Deputy General Counsel Duke Energy Corporation P.O. Box 1551/NCRH 20 Raleigh, North Carolina 27602 Telephone: 919.546.6722 <u>bo.somers@duke-energy.com</u>

By: