

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1185

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of  
Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC,     )  
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and     ) ORDER FINDING APPLICATION  
Necessity to Construct a Microgrid Solar     ) INCOMPLETE  
and Battery Storage Facility in Madison     )  
County, North Carolina     )

BY THE CHAIRMAN: On October 8, 2018, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP or Applicant), filed an application pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-61 for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) to construct the Hot Springs Microgrid Solar and Battery Storage Facility (Hot Springs Microgrid or Facility). DEP states that the Hot Springs Microgrid will consist of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels affixed to ground mount 20-degree fixed-tilt racking, solar inverters, a microgrid controller, and a battery energy storage system (BESS). The nominal generation capacity for the PV generator will be approximately 3 MW<sub>DC</sub>/ 2 MW<sub>AC</sub>. The nominal storage capacity for the battery will be approximately 4 MW. The useful life of the Facility is expected to be 25 years with anticipated replacement of the battery cells after year 10, depending on the degradation curves. The total projected cost of the project was filed by DEP under seal as a confidential trade secret. The application is supported by pre-filed testimony and exhibits.

The Chairman finds that DEP's application is incomplete. DEP's application does not contain all of the information required by N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-61. For example, the application lacks what alternatives DEP considered. In addition, DEP did not provide the information required by Commission Rule R8-61(b) and (c). The Chairman cites these examples as representative of the required information, but the examples do not represent a complete list of missing information and testimony. Notwithstanding the Commission's March 28, 2016 Order Granting Application In Part, With Conditions, And Denying Application in Part in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1089, the Chairman reminds DEP that it must demonstrate that generation projects meet the public convenience and necessity requirement.

The Chairman is of the opinion that timelines established by N.C.G.S. § 62-82, including the requirement to schedule the hearing in this matter within three months of the filing of the application, shall not begin until such time as DEP files a complete application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity that complies with N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-61. The Chairman finds that when the Commission determines that it has received a completed application, the Commission shall issue a scheduling order

setting the dates for a public witness hearing and an expert witness hearing to consider DEPS's application.

IT IS THEREFORE, ORDERED that the timelines set forth in N.C.G.S. § 62-82 shall not begin until DEP files a completed application as required by N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-61.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2018.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janice H. Fulmore".

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk