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Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh NC 27699-4300

Re: Docket No. E-2 Sub 1219 – In the Matter of the Application to the North Carolina Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) of Duke Energy Progress, LLC (“DEP”) for Adjustment of Rates and Charges Applicable to Electric Service in North Carolina (the “Application”)

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express my emphatic opposition to the Application referenced above.

For years DEP disposed of toxic coal ash in a flagrantly irresponsible manner in blatant defiance of expert scientific advice. DEP shareholders reaped short-term profits from these practices, while we North Carolinians were left to bear the burden of the resulting degradation of our environment. Now DEP has the gall to try to make us pay the cleanup costs as well. On the grounds of simple justice to the ratepayers, the Commission should reject the Application.

In addition, the Commission should take note of the issue of “moral hazard” implicit in the Application. DEP will never adopt responsible business practices as long as it thinks that it can simply pass the costs of irresponsible practices on to the consumers. Thus, the Commission should deny the Application.

Another objectionable feature of the Application is DEP’s request for a rate increase to fund new investments in destructive fossil-fuel infrastructure, such as coal power plants and a natural gas plant in Asheville. We cannot hope to combat climate change effectively if we continue to invest in dirty energy. The Commission should reject the Application and make it clear to DEP that it must invest in renewable energy technology.

Finally, I oppose the requested \$2.3 billion deferral to pay for an ill-defined “grid improvement plan.” The Commission should reject this request until DEP explains in detail how this money would be spent and how DEP will work with communities to build the grid.

Respectfully submitted,



Evelyn Hamilton