STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION AND SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION RELEASE REPORT ON DUKE POWER ACCOUNTING REVIEW

In July 2001, the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) and the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (PSCSC) undertook a joint investigation regarding accounting practices at Duke Power, a division of Duke Energy Corporation (Duke Power). The accounting review was conducted by Grant Thornton LLP and the results were filed today with both state commissions, as was Duke Power's response. Grant Thornton's report and Duke's response agree in some respects and disagree in others.

In an effort to resolve these issues, the NCUC and PSCSC staffs and Duke Power negotiated a proposed settlement agreement, which was also filed today with both state commissions. This proposed settlement will be considered by the NCUC at its next Commission Staff Conference on Monday, October 28, 2002, and by the PSCSC at its next Commission Business Meeting on Tuesday, October 29, 2002. The NCUC Commission Staff Conference will begin at 10:00 a.m., in Room 2115 of the Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

The report prepared by Grant Thornton LLP, Duke Power's response, and the proposed settlement agreement can be accessed from the NCUC's website at www.ncuc.net under Docket Information, Selected Orders/Filings of Interest.