## STATEOF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

# STAFF CONFERENCE AGENDA February 7, 2022

IMPORTANT NOTE: STAFF CONFERENCE
WILL BE CONDUCTED VIA WEBEX.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AND A LINK TO VIEW THE
MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE,
NCUC.NET

### **COMMISSION STAFF**

NO AGENDA ITEMS

#### **PUBLIC STAFF**

## C. COMMUNICATIONS

P1. FILING OF INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENTS AND AMENDMENTS BY MEBTEL, CENTURYLINK, AND VERIZON SOUTH

## D. ELECTRIC

- P1. DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 612 VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY,
  D/B/A DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA APPLICATION FOR
  CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC
  CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND MOTION FOR WAIVER OF NOTICE
  AND HEARING EXHIBIT NO P-1
- P2. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT SOLAR FACILITY

TO: Agenda – Commission Conference – February 7, 2022

FROM: PUBLIC STAFF – North Carolina Utilities Commission

## C. COMMUNICATIONS

# P1. <u>FILING OF INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENTS AND AMENDMENTS BY MEBTEL, CENTURYLINK, AND VERIZON SOUTH</u>

EXPLANATION: The following interconnection agreements and amendments were filed for Commission approval between November 18, 2021, and December 13, 2021:

#### Mebtel, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink

<u>Docket No. P-35, Sub 156</u> – Agreement and amendment with DISH Wireless L.L.C., filed on November 18, 2021. The agreement specifies the terms and conditions for interconnection, and the amendment adds terms and conditions under which the parties may use a Third Party Transit Provider to exchange traffic between their networks. The agreement and amendment supersede all previous agreements between the parties.

## <u>Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, LLC and Central Telephone</u> <u>Company, d/b/a CenturyLink</u>

<u>Docket Nos. P-7, Sub 1298, and P-10, Sub 911</u> – Agreement and amendment with DISH Wireless L.L.C., filed for approval on November 18, 2021. The agreement specifies the terms and conditions for interconnection, and the amendment adds terms and conditions under which the parties may use a Third Party Transit Provider to exchange traffic between their networks. The agreement and amendment supersede all previous agreements between the parties.

## Verizon South Inc.

<u>Docket No. P-19, Sub 464</u> – Amendment filed on December 2, 2021, to an existing interconnection agreement with Metropolitan Telecommunications of North Carolina, Inc., which the Commission approved on July 25, 2003. The amendment implements changes mandated by the Federal Communications Commission in its Report and Order in WC Docket No. 19-308, Modernizing Unbundling and Resale Requirements in an Era of Next-Generation Networks and Services (2020 UNE Order), related to unbundled access to network elements, which became effective on February 8, 2021.

<u>Docket No. P-19, Sub 544</u> – Amendment filed on December 13, 2021, to an existing interconnection agreement with Comcast Phone of North Carolina, LLC, which was approved by the Commission on November 14, 2019. The amendment implements the changes mandated by the 2020 UNE Order.

These filings were made in compliance with Commission Rule R17-4(d) and Sections 252(e) and 252(i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Act provides for the filing of such agreements and amendments with the state commission and approval or rejection by the state commission within 90 days after filing. On June 18, 1996, the Commission issued an Order in Docket No. P-100, Sub 133, allowing interim operation under negotiated agreements filed as public records prior to Commission approval of the agreements.

The Public Staff has reviewed the filings and recommends Commission approval.

RECOMMENDATION: (Proffitt/Coxton) That orders be issued approving the agreements and amendments effective on the date they were filed. The Public Staff has provided proposed orders to the Commission Staff.

## D. ELECTRIC

P1. DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 612 – VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY,
D/B/A DOMINION ENERGY NORTH CAROLINA – APPLICATION FOR
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY AND MOTION FOR WAIVER OF NOTICE
AND HEARING

EXPLANATION: On December 3, 2021, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 62-101 and 62-102, Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (DENC or the Company), filed with the Commission a letter of intent to file for a waiver of the notice and hearing requirements of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104. On the same date, pursuant to Commission Rule R8-62(k), DENC prefiled with the Public Staff an application for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity to construct a new 230-kV transmission tap line (Tap Line) approximately 200 feet in length to support the interconnection of a 100-MW solar facility in Currituck County, North Carolina. The prefiled application stated that the proposed Tap Line will connect an existing 230-kV transmission line to a new 230-kV substation. As detailed in DENC's prefiled application, the Company will construct the Tap Line on the interconnection customer's property and an additional 150 feet of new right of way.

On December 28, 2021, DENC formally filed the application for a certificate and motion for waiver of notice and hearing.

On January 28, 2022, the Company filed an update to Figure 4 of its application. The Company stated that since the initial December 28, 2021 filing, it had received multiple permits, which are included in this updated filing. Additionally, the Company stated that it has yet to obtain a railroad right-of-entry permit, but that it will be filed once it is received.

N.C.G.S. § 62-101(d)(1) authorizes the Commission to waive the notice and hearing requirements of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104 when it finds that the owners of the land to be crossed by the proposed transmission line do not object to the waiver and either the transmission line is less than one mile long or connects an existing transmission line to a substation, to another public utility, or to a public utility customer when any of these are in proximity to the existing transmission line. DENC's application states that the Company will construct the Tap Line on the customer's property and 150 feet of new right of way, and that the total length of the line is approximately 200 feet. Thus, the conditions of N.C.G.S. § 62-101(d)(1) for a waiver of notice and hearing have been met. The application is also supported by a Certificate Application Report. This report satisfies the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-102(a).

Based on its review, the Public Staff has determined that the application meets the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-102 and Commission Rule R8-62 for a certificate and the conditions of N.C.G.S. § 62-101(d)(1) for waiver of the notice and hearing requirements

of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104. The Public Staff, therefore, recommends that the Commission grant the motion for waiver and issue the requested certificate.

EXHIBIT: A proposed order is attached as Exhibit No. P-1.

RECOMMENDATION: (Lawrence/Creech) That the Commission issue an order waiving the notice and hearing requirements of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104 and issue the requested certificate for the construction of the Tap Line.

# P2. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT SOLAR FACILITY

EXPLANATION: The following application regards a certificate of public convenience and necessity for construction of a solar photovoltaic generating facility, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-64.

#### Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC:

<u>Docket No. SP-26335</u>, <u>Sub 0</u> – Application of Quaker Creek Farm Solar, LLC, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct a 35-MW solar photovoltaic facility in Alamance County, North Carolina.

The registration statement includes certified attestations, as required by Commission Rule R8-66(b), that: (1) the facility is in substantial compliance with all federal and state laws, regulations, and rules for the protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources; (2) the facility will be operated as a new renewable energy facility; (3) the applicant will not remarket or otherwise resell any renewable energy certificates sold to an electric power supplier to comply with N.C.G.S. §. 62-133.8; and (4) the applicant will consent to the auditing of its books and records by the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) insofar as those records relate to transactions with North Carolina electric power suppliers.

The Public Staff has reviewed the application and determined that it complies with the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-64.

RECOMMENDATION: (T. Williamson) That the Commission issue an order approving the application and issuing the requested certificate. The Public Staff has provided a proposed order to the Commission Staff.

EXHIBIT NO P-1 PAGE 1 OF 3

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 612

#### BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application of Virginia Electric and Power Company,	)
d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina, for a	) ORDER WAIVING NOTICE
Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public	) AND HEARING
Convenience and Necessity Pursuant to N.C. Gen.	) REQUIREMENT AND
Stat. §§ 62-100 et seq. to Construct a New	) ISSUING CERTIFICATE
Transmission Line in Currituck County, North	)
Carolina	)

BY THE COMMISSION: On December 3, 2021, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 62-101 and 62-102, Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (DENC or the Company), filed with the Commission a letter of intent to file for a waiver of the notice and hearing requirements of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104. On the same date, pursuant to Commission Rule R8-62(k), DENC prefiled with the Public Staff an application for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity to construct a new 230-kV transmission tap line (Tap Line) approximately 200 feet in length to support the interconnection of a 100-MW solar facility in Currituck County, North Carolina. The prefiled application stated that the proposed Tap Line will connect an existing 230-kV transmission line to a new 230-kV substation. As detailed in DENC's prefiled application, the Company will construct the Tap Line on the interconnection customer's property and an additional 150 feet of new right of way.

On December 28, 2021, DENC formally filed the application for a certificate and motion for waiver of notice and hearing.

On January 28, 2022, the Company filed an update to Figure 4 of its application. The Company stated that since the initial December 28, 2021 filing, it had received multiple permits, which are included in this updated filing. Additionally, the Company stated that it has yet to obtain a railroad right-of-entry permit, but that it will be filed once it is received.

N.C.G.S. § 62-101(d)(1) authorizes the Commission to waive the notice and hearing requirements of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104 when it finds that the owners of the land to be crossed by the proposed transmission line do not object to the waiver and either the transmission line is less than one mile long or connects an existing transmission

EXHIBIT NO P-1 PAGE 2 OF 3

line to a substation, to another public utility, or to a public utility customer when any of these are in proximity to the existing transmission line. DENC's application states that the Company will construct the Tap Line on the customer's property and 150 feet of new right of way, and that the total length of the line is approximately 200 feet. Thus, the conditions of N.C.G.S. § 62-101(d)(1) for a waiver of notice and hearing have been met.

The application is also supported by a Certificate Application Report. This report satisfies the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-102(a).

The Public Staff presented this matter at the Commission's Staff Conference on February 7, 2022. The Public Staff stated that the application meets the requirements of N.C.G.S. § 62-102 and Commission Rule R8-62 for a certificate and the conditions of N.C.G.S. § 62-101(d)(1) for waiver of the notice and hearing requirements of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission grant the motion for waiver and issue the requested certificate.

Based on the foregoing and the recommendation of the Public Staff, the Commission finds and concludes that the notice and hearing requirements of N.C.G.S. §§ 62-102 and 62-104 should be waived as allowed by N.C.G.S. § 62-101(d)(1) and that a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity should be issued for the proposed construction of a new 230-kV transmission tap line.

#### IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-101, the requirement for publication of notice and hearing is waived; and
- 2. That, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-102, a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity to construct approximately 200 feet of new 230-kV transmission line in Currituck County, North Carolina, as described in DENC's application, is issued, and the same is attached as Appendix A.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the \_\_\_\_ day of February, 2022

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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APPENDIX A

#### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 612

Know All People by These Presents, That

Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina

is hereby issued this

CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY PURSUANT TO N.C. GEN. STAT. § 62-102

to construct approximately 200 feet of new 230-kV transmission line to connect an existing 230-kV transmission line to a new 230-kV substation in Currituck County, North Carolina

subject to receipt of all federal and state permits as required by existing and future regulations prior to beginning construction and further subject to all other orders, rules, regulations, and conditions as are now or may hereafter be lawfully made by the North Carolina Utilities Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE C	COMMISSION.
This the day of February, 2	2022.
	NORTH CAROLINA LITH ITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk