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February 8, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Kimberley A. Campbell
Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

**Re: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's Direct Testimony
Docket No. EMP-92, Sub 0**

Dear Ms. Campbell:

Pursuant to the Commission's January 14, 2021 *Order Requiring Additional Testimony*, I enclose Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's Direct Testimony of Edgar A. Bell, III for filing in connection with this matter.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence B. Somers", written in a cursive style.

Lawrence B. Somers

Enclosure

cc: Parties of Record

OFFICIAL COPY

Feb 08 2021

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. EMP-92, SUB 0

In the Matter of

Application of NTE Carolinas II, LLC, for a
Certificate of Public Convenience and
Necessity to Construct a 500-MW Natural
Gas-Fueled Merchant Power Plant in
Rockingham County, North Carolina

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
EDGAR A. BELL, III**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

2 A. My name is Edgar A. Bell, III. My business address is 526 S. Church St.,
3 Charlotte, North Carolina 28202.

4 **Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?**

5 A. I am employed by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (“DEC” or the “Company”)
6 as a Director of Transmission Planning. My responsibilities include
7 managing the analysis, development and implementation of strategic
8 transmission expansion plans for DEC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC.
9 These plans are developed incorporating North American Electric Reliability
10 Corporation (“NERC”) Reliability Standards for Transmission Planning
11 (“TPL”), local reliability guidelines and ensuring coordination with adjacent
12 interconnected utilities and Regional Transmission Organizations (“RTOs”)
13 and Independent System Operators (“ISOs”). This includes analysis and
14 studies as required under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
15 (“FERC”) Open Access Transmission Tariff (“OATT”), FERC Order 890
16 and FERC Order 1000. My responsibilities also include representing Duke
17 Energy in various regional industry forums (e.g., SERC Reliability
18 Corporation (“SERC”), NC Transmission Planning Collaborative,
19 Southeastern Regional Transmission Planning (“SERTP”) process, etc.) on
20 transmission planning issues.

21 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL**
22 **QUALIFICATIONS.**

1 A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from
2 Clemson University in 1981. I am a licensed Professional Engineer in North
3 and South Carolina. I started my career with Duke Energy in January 1982
4 as a Junior Engineer in the Technical Services organization of Duke Power
5 Company's Operating Department and have 39 years of service. The early
6 portion of my career was spent in various engineering positions supporting
7 Transmission Operations and Maintenance including working as a field
8 engineer with responsibility to investigate power quality issues for
9 transmission served customers. In addition, I served as an Area Supervisor
10 in Elkin, North Carolina with responsibility to manage a team of technicians
11 in the day-to-day maintenance and operation of the transmission system. In
12 August 1999, I assumed the role of Director, Transmission Control Center
13 (DEC) with responsibility to oversee monitoring, control and operation of the
14 Transmission System. My responsibilities included coordination of planned
15 transmission outages, switching activities required to execute construction
16 and maintenance plans, and unplanned outage response. In June 2010, I
17 assumed the role of General Manager, Construction and Maintenance (DEC)
18 with responsibility to manage the field organization. Specific areas of focus
19 include execution of new construction in support of capital expansion and
20 asset management, performance of preventive maintenance, equipment
21 repairs and outage restoration. I assumed my current position in June 2015.

22 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THIS**
23 **COMMISSION?**

1 A. No, I have not previously testified before the Commission.

2 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

3 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide the information requested by the
4 Commission in its January 14, 2021 *Order Requiring Additional Testimony*
5 in this matter, which involves three questions regarding the interconnection
6 status of NTE Carolinas II, LLC's ("NTE") proposed Rockingham County
7 natural gas-fired combined cycle electric generating facility.

8 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHETHER NTE'S PROJECT HAS BEEN**
9 **RESTORED TO ITS ORIGINAL QUEUE POSITION, AND THE**
10 **DATE ON WHICH IT WAS RESTORED.**

11 A. Yes. As a FERC jurisdictional interconnection project, the NTE project was
12 restored to its original FERC interconnection queue position on May 27, 2020
13 in "suspended" status.

14 **Q. WHAT DOES "SUSPENDED" STATUS MEAN?**

15 A. "Suspended" is a FERC queue status designation that means that the
16 customer under a FERC jurisdictional interconnection agreement has notified
17 the interconnecting utility to stop all of its work in designing, engineering,
18 procuring, constructing, and installing network upgrades to accommodate the
19 interconnection, except such further work as may be necessary to ensure the
20 safety of persons and property and the integrity of the Transmission System
21 during such suspension.

1 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHETHER ANY NEW INTERCONNECTION**
2 **STUDIES HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED FOR THE ROCKINGHAM**
3 **FACILITY AFTER 2016.**

4 A. No new interconnection studies have been prepared for the NTE project since
5 the original studies were completed; however, to clarify, the original facilities
6 study was completed in 2017, rather than 2016.

7 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN WHETHER DEC HAS IDENTIFIED THE**
8 **ROCKINGHAM FACILITY AS TRIGGERING AFFECTED SYSTEM**
9 **UPGRADES IN ANY NEIGHBORING SYSTEM, INCLUDING DUKE**
10 **ENERGY PROGRESS, LLC.**

11 A. The NTE project has not triggered any affected system upgrades in any
12 neighboring system.

13 **Q. DOES THIS COMPLETE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

14 A. Yes, it does.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's Direct Testimony of Edgar A. Bell, III, in Docket No. EMP-92, Sub 0, has been served by electronic mail, hand delivery or by depositing a copy in the United States mail, postage prepaid to the following parties:

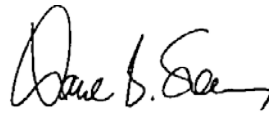
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This the 8th day of February, 2021.



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