STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1113

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for) ORDER SCHEDULING HEARINGS,
a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility (and Public Convenience and Necessity to (b) ESTABLISHING DISCOVERY
Construct Approximately 6.91 Miles of (b) GUIDELINES AND REQUIRING
New 230-kV Transmission Line in Carteret (b) PUBLIC NOTICE
County, North Carolina (c) ORDER SCHEDULING HEARINGS,
REQUIRING FILING OF TESTIMONY,
ESTABLISHING DISCOVERY
OF URBLIC NOTICE

BY THE CHAIRMAN: On August 3, 2017, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP or Applicant) filed an application pursuant to G.S. 62-100 et seq., for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity (certificate) to construct approximately 6.91 miles of new 230-kV transmission line and a substation in Carteret County, North Carolina. In summary, DEP's application describes the details of the transmission line and the benefits to be provided by the line. Further, the application is supported by pre-filed testimony and a Routing Study and Environmental Report. In addition, the application describes in detail the preferred route for the transmission line. Finally, as required by G.S. 62-102(c) the application includes a proposed Public Notice that provides a summary of the contents of the application.

The Chairman is of the opinion that good cause exists to schedule a public witness hearing and an expert witness hearing to consider DEP's application. Pursuant to G.S. 62-104(b), the Commission may cancel the public witness and expert witness hearings if no significant protests are filed with the Commission. The Chairman further concludes that DEP should be required to publish the Public Notice attached hereto as Appendix A in the manner required by G.S. 62-102(c), and to file an affidavit of publication with the Commission.

In addition, the Chairman finds good cause to direct that the parties to this proceeding shall informally and cooperatively conduct discovery and share information about the facts and issues involved in this matter in order to facilitate the presentation of the facts and the resolution of the issues.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That a public witness hearing shall be held on Thursday, November 30, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., at the Carteret County Courthouse, District Courtroom, 300 Courthouse Square, Beaufort, North Carolina, for the purpose of receiving public witness testimony regarding DEP's application. However, the public witness hearing may be canceled if no

significant protests are filed with the Commission;

- 2. That a hearing solely for the purpose of receiving expert testimony of the parties regarding DEP's application shall be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at 10:00 a.m., in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. <u>However, the expert witness hearing may be canceled if no significant protests are filed with the Commission;</u>
- 3. That any person having an interest in this proceeding may file a petition to intervene stating such interest and may file expert witness testimony on or before Monday, November 13, 2017;
- 4. That the direct testimony and exhibits of the Public Staff shall be filed on or before Monday, November 20, 2017;
- 5. That DEP may file rebuttal testimony and exhibits on or before Wednesday, November 29, 2017;
- 6. That the Chief Clerk of the Commission shall deliver copies of the application and the Public Notice attached hereto as Appendix A to the Clearinghouse Coordinator of the Office of Policy and Planning of the Department of Administration for distribution by the Coordinator to State agencies having an interest in the application;
- 7. That DEP shall publish the Public Notice attached hereto as Appendix A in the manner required by G.S. 62-102 and Commission Rule R8-62(g) in newspapers having general circulation in Carteret County;
- 8. That DEP shall file affidavits of publication on or before the date of the expert witness hearing; and
- 9. That the parties shall informally and cooperatively conduct discovery and share information about the facts and issues involved in this matter. However, if a discovery issue arises that the parties are unable to resolve, the party seeking information may file a motion to compel with the Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 9th day of August, 2017.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Linnetta Threatt, Acting Deputy Clerk

Linnetta Skreett

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1113

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

| In the Matter of | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC |) | |
| for a Certificate of Environmental |) | |
| Compatibility and Public Convenience and |) | PUBLIC NOTICE |
| Necessity to Construct Approximately |) | |
| 6.91 Miles of New 230-kV Transmission |) | |
| Line in Carteret County, North Carolina |) | |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has scheduled a public hearing on Thursday, November 30, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., at the Carteret County Courthouse, District Courtroom, 300 Courthouse Square, Beaufort, North Carolina. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public witness testimony regarding the application filed on August 3, 2017, by Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP) to obtain a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity to construct approximately 6.91 miles of new 230-kV transmission line and a substation in Carteret County, North Carolina. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g). However, the hearing may be canceled if no significant protests are filed with the Commission.

In summary, DEP's application describes the details of the transmission line and the benefits to be provided by the line. Further, the application is supported by pre-filed testimony and a Routing Study and Environmental Report (Report). In addition, the application describes the preferred route for the transmission line and substation site as follows: The preferred route begins at the proposed Harlowe 230kV – 115kV Substation near the Town of Harlowe and southwest of State Road 101. The alignment exits the Substation heading west for approximately 1.29 miles across private pine plantations before it arrives at the eastern boundary of Croatan National Forest (CNF). The route then crosses through the CNF for approximately 0.95 miles. Upon exiting the CNF, the route continues west and parallels the CNF boundary for approximately 3.12 miles across active forest plantations, Significant Natural Heritage Areas, and private conservation easements until it meets the Havelock-Morehead Wildwood 115kV South Transmission Line north of the Town of Newport. In the vicinity of this location, the route crosses an

additional 1,310 feet of CNF lands. From here, the alignment turns north and parallels the existing overhead transmission line for approximately 1.55 miles before arriving at the proposed Newport 230kV Switching Station.

Additional specific information about DEP's application for a certificate may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, Raleigh, North Carolina, where a copy of DEP's application and supporting documents are available for review by the public, and on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.net. Search for Docket No. E-2, Sub 1113.

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information that the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, c/o Consumer Protection-Utilities, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-9001.

Written statements are not evidence unless persons appear at a public hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements.

Any person desiring to intervene in the proceeding as a formal party of record should file a petition under North Carolina Utilities Commission Rules R1-5 and R1-19 on or before Monday, November 13, 2017. Such petitions should be filed with the Chief Clerk of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. The direct testimony and exhibits of expert witnesses to be presented by intervenors should also be filed with the Commission on or before Monday, November 13, 2017.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 9th day of August, 2017.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Linnetta Threatt, Acting Deputy Clerk

Linnetta Skreutt

NOTE TO PRINTER: Advertising cost shall be paid by the Applicant. It is required that the Affidavit of Publication be filed with the Commission by the Applicant.