



May 8, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING:

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

**Re: Joint request for extension of time to develop savings calculator and
implement approved net energy metering options**
Docket No. E-100 Sub 180

Dear Ms. Dunston:

I am writing on behalf of North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association, Southern Environmental Law Center on behalf of Vote Solar and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, the Solar Energy Industries Association, Sundance Power Systems, Inc., Southern Energy Management, Inc., and Yes Solar Solutions (collectively, the “Settling Parties”) in response to the order issued in this docket by the North Carolina Utilities Commission (the “NCUC”) on March 23, 2023 (the “Order”). For the reasons set forth below, the Settling Parties respectfully request an extension (i) to July 1, 2023, for the implementation of the new online bill savings calculator required by the Order, and (ii) to October 1, 2023, for implementation of the new net energy metering programs approved by the Order.¹

The Order establishes new net energy metering tariffs (the “NEM Tariffs”) and a glidepath option (the “Bridge Rate”) for legacy customers and a limited number of future NEM customers to transition to the new NEM offerings. The Order provides that customers may continue to enroll in legacy NEM offerings until July 1, 2023, at which time both existing and future NEM customers could enroll in either the NEM Tariffs or the Bridge Rate, though to a limited extent for future customers.

The Order also requires Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (collectively, the “Companies”) to develop an online bill savings calculator that will model all aspects of a customer’s bill to ensure customers are able to estimate savings in light of the increased complexity of the NEM Tariffs and Bridge Rate (together, the “New Tariffs”). The Order requires the Companies to develop the calculator within 60 days of

¹ Correspondingly, new customers will be eligible to enroll in legacy NEM programs until September 30, 2023, to ensure availability of NEM programs throughout this transition.



the Order and no later than 30 days prior to the effective date of the New Tariffs—meaning that the Companies must implement the calculator no later than May 22, 2023. The Companies must also work with stakeholders and gather their input to develop the online bill savings calculator.

Since the issuance of the Order, the Settling Parties and the Companies held several discussions to ensure compliance with the requirements contained therein related to implementation of the New Tariffs, including discussing the Companies' proposed timeline for developing the online bill savings calculator. Through those discussions, Settling Parties raised concerns regarding the calculator and certain additional corresponding consumer protections which would increase the amount of time the Companies need to develop the calculator. As an illustrative example only, developing a calculator that allows customers to compare the New Tariffs using their own usage histories will take longer to develop than a calculator that utilizes a typical usage profile. Given the increased complexity of the New Tariffs, this type of additional calculator functionality will ensure customers can accurately estimate bill savings and make informed investment decisions when comparing tariff options. Independent of the concerns raised by the solar installers, the Companies indicated that additional time to prepare and quality control the calculator may be beneficial.

In light of these conversations, the Settling Parties respectfully request that the deadline to implement the calculator be extended to July 1, 2023, with the effective date of the Bridge Rate and NEM Tariffs extended to October 1, 2023. To ensure that customers continue to have NEM options during this extended period, the Settling Parties also respectfully request that customers be permitted to enroll in the legacy NEM programs through September 30, 2023.

The Settling Parties and the Companies are working in good faith to ensure compliance with the requirements set forth in the Order. The proposed extension of time will provide the solar industry an opportunity to adapt its business model, the Companies an opportunity to develop and quality-control the calculator, and the Settling Parties and other stakeholders an opportunity to review and provide input on the calculator prior to the implementation date. The proposed extension provides these opportunities while still adhering to the overall structure and purpose of the Order. Under the proposed revised dates, customers would have an opportunity to evaluate their data in the online bill savings calculator prior to the effective date of the Bridge Rate and NEM Tariffs.

The Settling Parties have discussed timelines with the Companies and are authorized to represent that the Companies have no objection to the extensions requested in this letter. The North Carolina Attorney General's Office was able to review this letter and supports the extensions the Settling Parties request herein. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



Sincerely,

/s/ Taylor Jones

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Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record (via email with attachments)

OFFICIAL COPY

May 08 2023



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that all persons on the docket service list have been served true and accurate copies of the foregoing filing by hand delivery, first class mail deposited in the U.S. mail, postage pre-paid, or by email transmission with the party's consent.

This the 8th day of May, 2023.

/s/ Taylor Jones

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