

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1146
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1253

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Applications of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for Adjustment of Rates and Charges Applicable to Electric Utility Service in North Carolina) ORDER REQUESTING COMMENTS ON PROPOSED PERMANENT RATE DESIGNS, EXTENDING PILOT RATE DESIGNS AND ADDING PARTIES

BY THE CHAIR: On July 2, 2019, in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1146, the Commission issued an Order Approving Pilots that approved nine pilot advanced rate design offerings proposed by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC), with modifications proposed by the Public Staff and accepted by DEC. The pilots were approved for a one-year period through September 30, 2020. On July 9, 2019, DEC filed compliance tariffs for its pilot programs, which tariffs were approved by the Commission on July 29, 2019.

On October 1, 2020, in response to a motion by DEC, the Commission issued an Order extending the pilots to July 1, 2021.

On May 7, 2021, DEC filed a petition in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1253 requesting that the Commission approve three advanced rate designs, as follows: (1) Residential Service: Time of Use with Critical Peak Pricing Schedules - RSTC for standard customers; (2) Residential Service: Time of Use with Critical Peak Pricing Schedules – RETC for all-electric customers; and (3) Small General Service: Time of Use with Critical Peak Pricing Schedule (SGSTC). These three advanced rate designs were described in detail by DEC in its petition. DEC requested that the three advanced rate designs be approved for service on and after July 1, 2021, and stated that if Commission approval could not be granted sufficiently in advance to make the transition by that date DEC requested that the pilots be extended for 45 days from the date of an order approving the new advanced rate designs so that DEC could implement an orderly transition.

DEC stated that the pilots produced meaningful and actionable findings and demonstrated the potential for customers to change their consumption patterns in response to price signals, creating bill savings and system benefits. Moreover, DEC stated that the pilots provided guidance on many specific elements of rate design, such as the difficulty that residential customers have in understanding the demand charges in the pilots or the limited benefits of having both “high” and “critical” pricing events. According to DEC, these lessons and many more have been incorporated into the final three rate designs that it is proposing to launch on July 1, 2021. In addition, DEC stated that it held several meetings with the Public Staff to preview the proposed final rate

designs and to explain the reasoning and data behind the review of the time-of-use periods. DEC also attached the proposed tariffs for the three rate designs to its petition.

Based on the foregoing and the record in these dockets, the Chair finds good cause to request comments and reply comments from the parties, and to extend the current pilot advanced rates until further order by the Commission. In addition, the Chair finds good cause to make all parties to Docket No. E-7, Sub 1146 parties to Docket No. E-7, Sub 1253 without the necessity of said parties filing a petition to intervene, and to direct the Chief Clerk to serve a copy of this Order on all parties to Docket No. E-7, Sub 1146.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That all parties to Docket No. E-7, Sub 1146 are hereby made parties to Docket No. E-7, Sub 1253, without the necessity of filing a petition to intervene;
2. That the Chief Clerk shall serve a copy of this Order on all parties to Docket No. E-7, Sub 1146;
3. That on or before June 30, 2021, the parties may file comments on DEC's proposed advanced rate designs;
4. That on or before July 14, 2021, the parties may file reply comments; and
5. That DEC's current pilot advanced rates shall be, and are hereby, extended until further order by the Commission.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 28th day of May, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION



Joann R. Snyder, Deputy Clerk