

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1213  
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1214  
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1187  
DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1219

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1213

In the Matter of  
Petition of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for  
Approval of Prepaid Advantage Program

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1214

In the Matter of  
Application by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC,  
for Adjustment of Rates and Charges  
Applicable to Electric Utility Service in  
North Carolina

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1187

In the Matter of  
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC,  
for an Accounting Order to Defer Incremental  
Storm Damage Expenses Incurred as a  
Result of Hurricanes Florence and Michael  
and Winter Storm Diego

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1219

In the Matter of  
Application by Duke Energy Progress, LLC,  
for Adjustment of Rates and Charges  
Applicable to Electric Utility Service in  
North Carolina

ORDER RESCHEDULING  
SEPARATE EXPERT WITNESS  
HEARINGS TO BE CONDUCTED  
REMOTELY

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONERS: On September 30, 2019, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC), filed an application for a general rate case in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1214. On October 30, 2019, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP; together with DEC, Duke), filed an application for a general rate case in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1219. Docket

Nos. E-7, Sub 1213 and E-7, Sub 1187 were consolidated with the DEC rate case by orders issued November 20, 2019, and June 26, 2020, respectively.

After postponing the expert witness hearings in these rate cases due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission issued an Order Adopting Procedures for Expert Witness Hearings on June 17, 2020, which, among other things, consolidated the expert witness hearings with regard to certain specific issues<sup>1</sup> and ordered the consolidated hearing to be conducted remotely. On July 27, 2020, in response to a motion by Duke and the Public Staff, the Commission issued an order further rescheduling the consolidated, remote hearing to begin on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.,

In response to the partial settlement between Duke and the Public Staff, the Commission issued an order on August 4, 2020, requiring Duke to further consult with the parties and file an updated list of witnesses, order of witnesses, and estimated times for cross-examination of each witness for all portions of the evidentiary hearing for the rate case dockets. Duke filed the requested information on August 7, 2020, as ordered.

After careful review of Duke's August 7, 2020 filing, the Presiding Commissioners find good cause to affirm the previously ordered procedure for hearing these rate cases, with the consolidated hearing to be conducted remotely beginning at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2020, limited to the issues set forth in the Commission's July 9, 2020 order.

The Presiding Commissioners further find good cause to reschedule the separate Company-specific hearings on the remaining issues in each case to also be held remotely, with the DEC hearing to begin upon the conclusion of the consolidated hearing and the DEP hearing to begin thereafter. A time certain to commence each of these separate Company-specific hearings will be determined at or before the conclusion of the prior hearing in this proceeding. Further orders will be issued in these dockets related to the filing of exhibits and other issues arising from the decision now to hold the separate Company-specific hearings remotely.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the consolidated, remote expert witness hearing in the above-captioned proceeding shall begin on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. as previously scheduled;
2. That the separate DEC-specific expert witness hearing on the remaining issues in the DEC rate case and consolidated DEC dockets shall be conducted remotely and will begin upon the conclusion of the consolidated, remote hearing at a date and time to be determined; and

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<sup>1</sup> By order dated July 9, 2020, the following issues were set to be heard during the consolidated portion of the hearing: "(1) capital structure of the utilities to be used to determine the overall weighted cost of capital, (2) cost of debt, (3) rate of return on common equity, (4) credit quality, (5) treatment of excess deferred income taxes, (6) Grid Improvement Plan, and (7) affordability."

3. That the separate DEP-specific expert witness hearing on the remaining issues in the DEP rate case shall be conducted remotely and will begin upon the conclusion of the DEC-specific expert witness hearing at a date and time to be determined.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 10th day of August, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberley A. Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk