STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 175

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

) ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR
) EXTENSION OF TIME TO WESTERN
) CAROLINA UNIVERSITY AND
) APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY,
) d/b/a NEW RIVER LIGHT AND POWER
) COMPANY

BY THE CHAIR: On August 13, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Establishing Biennial Proceeding, Requiring Data, and Scheduling Public Hearing (Order), which, in pertinent part makes Western Carolina University (WCU) and Appalachian State University, d/b/a New River Light and Power Company (New River), parties to this proceeding. The Order further requires WCU and New River, among others, to make their initial filings on or before Monday, November 1, 2021. Also, pertinent to WCU and New River, the Order requires that initial filings shall include the following:

- a. A set of proposed rates for purchases from qualifying facilities, showing all calculations for deriving said proposed rates, including inflation rates and discount rates used; and
- b. Proposed standard form(s) of contract between qualifying facilities and the utility, describing any differences between said proposed standard form(s) of contract and the currently approved standard contract, including the reasons for such differences[.]

Order at 2. Finally, the Order requires that , among others, WCU and New River

[S]hall publish, at their own expense, in newspapers having general circulation in their respective North Carolina service areas, the "Notice of Public Hearing" attached hereto as Appendix A once a week for two successive weeks, beginning with the week of January 3, 2022, and shall submit Affidavits of Publication to the Commission no later than the date of the hearing.

Order at 3.

On December 16, 2021, David T. Drooz and M. Gray Styers, Jr., of the law firm of Fox Rothschild LLP, counsel for WCU and New River, filed a Notice of Appearance and Motion for Extension of Time (Motion). The Motion states that Mr. Drooz and Mr. Styers "were retained on or about December 16, 2021, to represent WCU and New River in this matter after a consultant for WCU and New River learned from the Public Staff-North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) that the initial filing deadline in the Commission's order had been missed." Motion at ¶ 5. "Neither the undersigned counsel nor the consultant who advises WCU and New River with their avoided cost filings were aware of the filing deadline until around December 7, 2021." *Id.*, at ¶ 6. WCU and New River state that "[t]he Commission's service list for this docket does not include any legal counsel for New River or WCU and does not include the undersigned counsel." *Id.*, at ¶ 1.

The Motion states that "WCU and New River expect to be able to prepare the required statements and exhibits for filing by December 22, 2021." Id., at ¶ 7. The Motion also notes that no extension is needed for WCU and New River to be able to comply with the Public Notice requirements of the Order.

Finally, in support of the Motion, WCU and New River state

The filings required of WCU and New River have not been controversial in recent avoided cost proceedings and are typically much shorter and less controversial than the filings of the investor-owned utilities. WCU and New River do not anticipate the requested extension would disadvantage or harm other parties to this proceeding.

The Public Staff, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, Duke Energy Progress, LLC, and Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina have all been informed of this motion and have all authorized undersigned counsel to represent that they do not object to the requested extension of time.

Id., at ¶¶ 9-10.

The Chair notes that, pursuant to the Order, the deadline for the Public Staff and intervenors to file initial comments and exhibits is on or before Wednesday, February 9, 2022, and agrees with the petitioners, that the requested extension is unlikely to disadvantage or

harm other parties to this proceeding. Based on the foregoing, the Chair finds good cause to grant the Motion.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That WCU and New River shall provide updated contact information to the Chief Clerk, pursuant to Commission Rule R1-4A; and
 - 2. The Motion is hereby allowed.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 20th day of December, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk