

1 STAFF CONFERENCE MARCH 14, 2022

2 CHAIR MITCHELL: Good morning. Let's come
3 to order and go on the record, please. I'm Charlotte
4 Mitchell, Chair of the Utilities Commission, and with
5 me this morning are: Commissioners Brown-Bland, Gray,
6 Clodfelter, Duffley, Hughes, and McKissick.

7 In compliance with the State Government
8 Ethics Act, I remind Members of the Commission of our
9 duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire, at
10 this time, as to whether any member of the Commission
11 has a known conflict of interest with respect to
12 matters coming before us this morning.

13 (No response)

14 CHAIR MITCHELL: The record will reflect
15 that no conflicts have been identified, so we'll
16 proceed with Public Staff, Electric Item P1. Good
17 morning, Mr. Floyd.

18 MR. FLOYD: Good morning. My name is Jack
19 Floyd with the Energy Division of the Public Staff.
20 Item 1 is a request by Dominion Energy North Carolina,
21 in Docket E-22, Sub 543, to close their
22 non-residential prescriptive EE program. That's the
23 abbreviated version.

24 CHAIR MITCHELL: Thank you, Mr. Floyd. I'll

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 take a motion if the Commissioners' prepared to take
2 one.

3 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: Move approval of
4 the recommendation.

5 COMMISSIONER GRAY: Second.

6 CHAIR MITCHELL: All right. I got a motion
7 and a second. Questions or discussion? Commissioner
8 Clodfelter.

9 COMMISSIONER CLODFELTER: You don't think we
10 really read this stuff, do you?

11 MR. FLOYD: I'm going to take the fifth on
12 that.

13 CHAIR MITCHELL: All right, Mr. Floyd.

14 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: For the record,
15 we do.

16 COMMISSIONER GRAY: You do.

17 COMMISSIONER McKISSICK: I do.

18 CHAIR MITCHELL: Hearing no useful
19 discussion, all in favor, indicate with an aye.

20 (All Commissioners say aye)

21 CHAIR MITCHELL: Anyone opposed?

22 (No response)

23 CHAIR MITCHELL: Motion carries. Good work,
24 Mr. Floyd.

1 MR. FLOYD: Thank you.

2 CHAIR MITCHELL: We'll proceed with Public
3 Staff, Electric Item P2 -- Electric Item 2, I'm sorry.

4 MR. THOMAS: Good morning, Commissioners.
5 My name is Jeff Thomas, and I'm with the Energy
6 Division of the Public Staff. Item 2 is Docket No.
7 E-7, Sub 1169 and E-2, Sub 1170.

8 It is Duke Energy Carolinas and Duke Energy
9 Progress' request to modify the terms of the Green
10 Source Advantage Program, Session Law 2021-180, modify
11 the GSA Program's statute to reserve the capacity to
12 set aside for the UNC system and large military
13 installations for an eligible customer defined as any
14 customer of an electric public utility, locates a new
15 manufacturing facility at a project site that is
16 subject to an agreement with the Department of
17 Commerce. Public Staff has reviewed the motion and
18 recommends the Commission approve the request.

19 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: Move approval of
20 the Public Staff recommendation.

21 COMMISSIONER GRAY: Second.

22 CHAIR MITCHELL: It's been moved and
23 seconded that the item be approved as recommended by
24 the Public Staff. Questions or discussion?

1 (No response)

2 CHAIR MITCHELL: Mr. Floyd -- I'm sorry,
3 Mr. Thomas. I still had Mr. Floyd on my mind. I note
4 that the Agenda item indicates that ya'll did not --
5 that no comments have been filed in the docket, and I
6 saw that upon review of the docket, but did the Public
7 Staff hear from any customers or customer groups about
8 this item, to your knowledge?

9 MR. THOMAS: Not to my knowledge.

10 CHAIR MITCHELL: Okay.

11 MR. THOMAS: There may have been
12 communications with legal, but I don't believe there's
13 any objection.

14 CHAIR MITCHELL: You're not aware of any.

15 MR. THOMAS: No.

16 CHAIR MITCHELL: And I see Mr. Josey coming,
17 approaching the microphone.

18 MR. JOSEY: Robert Josey, Public Staff,
19 legal. We have not received any communications, to my
20 knowledge.

21 CHAIR MITCHELL: All right. Thank you,
22 Mr. Josey. Any additional questions or discussion?

23 (No response)

24 CHAIR MITCHELL: Hearing none, all in favor,

1 indicate with an aye.

2 (All Commissioners say aye)

3 CHAIR MITCHELL: Is there anyone opposed?

4 (No response)

5 CHAIR MITCHELL: Motion carries. Thank you,

6 Mr. Thomas. Commission has before us our minutes of

7 the February 28 Staff Conference.

8 COMMISSIONER GRAY: Move approval.

9 COMMISSIONER DUFFLEY: Second.

10 CHAIR MITCHELL: It's been moved and
11 seconded that those minutes be approved. Are there
12 any questions or comments on those minutes?

13 (No response)

14 CHAIR MITCHELL: All in favor, indicate with
15 an aye.

16 (All Commissioners say aye)

17 CHAIR MITCHELL: Anyone opposed?

18 (No response)

19 CHAIR MITCHELL: Minutes are approved.

20 All right. A bit of additional business this morning.

21 Ms. Downey, Ms. Heironimus, you may approach.

22 MS. DOWNEY: Good morning, Commissioners.

23 Dianna Downey with the Public Staff. I wanted to

24 introduce to the Commission Jessica Heironimus, our

1 new paralegal. Jessica received her Bachelor's degree
2 from UNC Chapel Hill, completed the Paralegal Program
3 at Meredith, and is a North Carolina certified
4 paralegal.

5 Aside from a few years in a private firm,
6 Jessie has worked at the AG's office, in the Motor
7 Vehicle section, consumer protection section, and has
8 actually worked on utility cases.

9 Outside of work, Jessica has been a foster
10 for Chihuahua Rescue and Transport for six years, only
11 failing on her first attempt at fostering Eleanor, now
12 a 13 year-old Puppy Mill rescue who is featured in a
13 Rolling Stone article about the Mills bust.

14 Last summer, she also accidentally became a
15 cat mom of two. We have introduced her to a number of
16 your staff, and she's received a very warm welcome,
17 and we look forward for her working with us.

18 CHAIR MITCHELL: Well, good morning,
19 Ms. Heironimus. Anything you'd -- I mean I don't know
20 how you top that introduction, so...

21 MS. HEIRONIMUS: I really can't. My
22 Chihuahua Eleanor's more famous than I am, so...

23 CHAIR MITCHELL: Well, I was going to say I
24 feel like we have a celebrity among us now. You were

1 featured in Rolling Stone magazine, so...

2 MS. HEIRONIMUS: No, just Eleanor.

3 CHAIR MITCHELL: Oh. Got it.

4 MS. HEIRONIMUS: So no, no, no, no. Let's
5 be clear.

6 CHAIR MITCHELL: Understood.

7 MS. HEIRONIMUS: I just -- you know, I just
8 live with her. I'm very excited to be here, though.
9 Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: So, Jessica, I
11 would like to know how do you accidentally become a
12 cat mom, and we do have a cat rescue person who --

13 MS. HEIRONIMUS: Well, I have a family
14 member who is a hoarder, and so we ended up taking one
15 of those cats. And I kind of fell in love with her,
16 and so we ended up keeping her, and I accidentally
17 trapped a Feral cat. We do a trap, neuter, vaccinate,
18 release. And so we caught a little 6-week-old kitten,
19 and he kind of imprinted on me. And, you know, he's
20 adorable, and so I've got two cats, and they get
21 along, thank goodness.

22 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: That's accidental
23 portion.

24 MS. HEIRONIMUS: Yeah, yeah. I mean, well,

1 we intended on housing the other cat, and that was --
2 I kind of accidentally fell in love with her, so...

3 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: Well, very good.
4 Commissioner Hughes is always trying to find homes for
5 cute little kittens.

6 MS. HEIRONIMUS: Oh, no. I won't take any
7 more, but thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER BROWN-BLAND: All right.

9 CHAIR MITCHELL: Well, I'm willing to bet
10 this is the first time that the minutes of Staff
11 Conference will reflect trapping Feral cats and
12 Rolling Stone magazine. Anything else for the
13 Commission this morning before we adjourn?

14 (No response)

15 CHAIR MITCHELL: Hearing nothing, we'll be
16 adjourned. Thank you very much, everybody. Let's go
17 off the record.

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19 WHEREUPON, this conference is adjourned.

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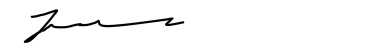
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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proceedings in the above-captioned matter were taken
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Tonja Vines