STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. EMP-92, SUB 0

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BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of NTE Carolinas II, LLC, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct a 500-MW Natural Gas-Fueled Merchant Power Plant in Rockingham County, North Carolina

ORDER AMENDING PUBLIC NOTICE AND REQUIRING FURTHER REVIEW BY STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

BY THE CHAIRMAN: On July 29, 2016, NTE Carolinas II, LLC (NTE or Applicant) filed an application in the above-captioned docket pursuant to G.S. 62-110.1 and Commission Rule R8-63 for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct a natural-gas fueled merchant electric generating facility in Rockingham County, North Carolina. The application was supported by the direct testimony of Michael C. Green, Vice-President of NTE.

On August 10, 2016, the Public Staff filed a Notice of Completeness stating that the Public Staff has reviewed the application as required by Commission Rule R8-63(d) and that the Public Staff considers the application to be complete. In addition, the Public Staff requested that the Commission issue a procedural order setting the application for hearing, requiring public notice pursuant to G.S. 62-82, and addressing other procedural matters.

On August 16, 2016, the Commission issued an Order that, among other things, scheduled a public witness hearing in this matter and required NTE to publish a Public Notice regarding its application and the public witness hearing (Scheduling Order).

On September 21, 2016, NTE filed a letter amending the application to add approximately eighty (80) acres of property as a part of the project site. In addition, NTE filed an updated map showing the new acreage.

Based on the foregoing and the record, the Chairman finds good cause to issue this Order amending the Public Notice to reflect the additional acreage of the project site, and requiring that the amendment to the application be submitted to the Clearinghouse Coordinator of the Office of Policy and Planning of the Department of Administration for distribution by the Coordinator to State agencies having an interest in the amended application. IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That NTE shall publish the Public Notice attached hereto as Appendix A in a newspaper having general circulation in Rockingham County once a week for four successive weeks beginning at least 25 days prior to the public witness hearing;

2. That the Chief Clerk of the Commission shall deliver copies of the amended application and the Public Notice attached hereto as Appendix A to the Clearinghouse Coordinator of the Office of Policy and Planning of the Department of Administration for distribution by the Coordinator to State agencies having an interest in the application.

3. That the provisions of the Commission's August 16, 2016 Scheduling Order not modified by this Order shall remain in full force and effect.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the <u>23rd</u> day of September, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Jonice H. Fulmore

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has scheduled a public hearing on Tuesday, October 25, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at the Rockingham County Courthouse, Superior Courtroom A, 170 Highway 65, Reidsville, North Carolina. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public witness testimony regarding the application of NTE Carolinas II, LLC (NTE) for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) to construct a 500-MW natural-gas fueled merchant electric generating facility in Rockingham County, North Carolina. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g).

In summary, NTE states that it intends to construct a 500-MW combined cycle combustion turbine electric generating facility to be fueled by natural gas. Construction is anticipated to begin in the first quarter of 2018. The location of the proposed facility is an approximately 170 acre tract located at 4781 NC Highway 65, bounded on the west by New Lebanon Church Road, with the facility being located on the west side of NC Highway 65, and a small portion of the site on the east side of NC Highway 65, near Reidsville, Rockingham County, North Carolina.

The facility will interconnect with the electric transmission grid operated by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC) via the Ernest Switching Station immediately adjacent to the facility site. All interconnection equipment will be located on the facility site, except a portion of the line connecting the facility to the Ernest Switching Station, which portion will be on DEC's property. NTE is in discussions with Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc., to provide services as the natural gas distribution company for the facility. The expected service life of the facility is 30 years.

Specific information about NTE's application for a CPCN may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, Raleigh, North Carolina, where a copy of NTE's application, exhibits and supporting testimony are available for review by the public, and on the Commission's website at <u>www.ncuc.net</u>.

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information that the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Roy Cooper, Attorney General, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-9001.

Written statements are not evidence unless persons appear at a public hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements.

Any person desiring to intervene in the proceeding as a formal party of record should file a petition under North Carolina Utilities Commission Rules R1-5 and R1-19 on or before Tuesday, October 18, 2016. Such petitions should be filed with the Chief Clerk of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. The direct testimony and exhibits of expert witnesses to be presented by intervenors should also be filed with the Commission on or before Tuesday, October 18, 2016.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the <u>23rd</u> day of September, 2016.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Jonice H. Fulmore

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk