

NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC STAFF UTILITIES COMMISSION

November 14, 2022

Ms. A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk North Carolina Utilities Commission 4325 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

Re: Letter in Lieu of Reply Comments – Docket Nos. E-2, Subs 1193 and 1219;

E-7 Subs 1187, 1213, and 1214; G-5, Subs 632 and 634; and G-9, Subs

722, 781, and 786

Dear Ms. Dunston:

The Public Staff submits this letter in lieu of reply comments in response to the Commission's October 5, 2022 *Order Allowing the Filing of Comments* in the above-referenced dockets, in which the Commission allowed parties to file comments and reply comments in response to the joint Final Report and Recommendations (Final Report) of the North Carolina Low-Income Affordability Collaborative, which was filed jointly on August 12, 2022, in the above-referenced dockets by Duke Energy Progress, LLC; Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC; and the Public Staff.

On October 24, 2022, interested parties¹ filed Initial Comments in response to the Final Report. The Public Staff has reviewed these comments and notes that the Customer Assistance Program and data sharing matters are pending in other dockets² in which these issues can be fully discussed by all interested parties; and that, consistent with its position as set forth in the Carbon Plan Proceedings in Docket No. E-100, Sub 179, the Public Staff continues to support the recommendation contained in the Final Report that

Executive Director (919) 733-2435

Accounting (919) 733-4279

Consumer Services (919) 733-9277

Economic Research (919) 733-2267

Energy (919) 733-2267 Legal (919) 733-6110 Transportation (919) 733-7766

Water/Telephone (919) 733-5610

¹ These interested parties are as follows: (1) the Carolina Industrial Group for Fair Utility Rates I, the Carolina Industrial Group for Fair Utility Rates II, and the Carolina Industrial Group for Fair Utility Rates III, collectively; (2) the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy; and (3) the North Carolina Justice Center, the Sierra Club, and the Southern Environmental Law Center, collectively.

² See Docket No. E-2, Sub 1300 concerning the Customer Assistance Program and Docket No. E-100, Sub 161 concerning data sharing.

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customers who are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level be considered for purposes of eligibility for participation in programs that address affordability. The remaining issues raised in the Initial Comments are either addressed in the Final Report or are items which the Public Staff leaves to the discretion of the Commission.

The Public Staff appreciates the opportunity to work with the parties in these dockets and the Commission's consideration of the Final Report and the parties' comments in this matter.

Sincerely,

Electronically submitted
/s/ Anne M. Keyworth
Staff Attorney
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cc: Parties of Record