

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1265

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC	)
for Approval of Demand-Side Management	)
and Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Rider	)
Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.9 and	)
Commission Rule R8-69	)
	ORDER REQUIRING FILING OF ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY

BY THE CHAIR: Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.9 and Commission Rule R8-69, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC), will file its annual application for approval of a rate rider for recovery by DEC of the costs and incentives of its demand-side management (DSM) and energy efficiency (EE) programs on or before the fourth week of February 2022. North Carolina General Statutes Section 62-133.9 was effective on January 1, 2008. Since that time the Commission has approved numerous DSM and EE programs for implementation and cost recovery by DEC and other electric public utilities. The first docket to comprehensively address DSM/EE measures and cost recovery under the statute was Docket No. E-7, Sub 831. In that docket the Commission approved DEC's modified save-a-watt proposal, which was supported by the Public Staff and numerous other intervenors (Stipulating Parties), based on a settlement agreement. Order Approving Agreement and Joint Stipulation of Settlement Subject to Certain Commission-Required Modifications and Decisions on Contested Issues (Save-A-Watt Order), *Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Approval of Save-A-Watt Approach, Energy Efficiency Rider, and Portfolio of Energy Efficiency Programs*, Docket No. E-7, Sub 831 (Feb. 9, 2010). In summary, the Save-A-Watt Order approved several DSM/EE programs, energy saving performance targets, and cost recovery guidelines. The Commission's approval was based on the DSM/EE measures and cost recovery mechanism being a four-year pilot program. In addition, the Commission approved the Stipulating Parties' proposal to establish a regional energy efficiency advisory group. According to the terms of the settlement, in pertinent part:

The role of the advisory group is to collaborate on new program ideas, review modifications to existing programs, ensure an accurate public understanding of the programs and funding, and review the M&V process.

Agreement and Joint Stipulation of Settlement, ¶ K.3., at 26.

The regional advisory group, now referred to as the DSM/EE Collaborative, has evolved into a joint group of DEC's and Duke Energy Progress, LLC's (DEP's), stakeholders that meets four to six times a year. In addition, between meetings the group

regularly communicates through conference calls and emails to discuss agenda items, priorities, and new program developments.

Moreover, in the almost 12 years since the Save-A-Watt Order was issued the DSM/EE landscape has changed dramatically due to increased internet capacity and availability, and related technological advances. For example, DEC and DEP have deployed Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI) that enables customers to obtain real time information about their energy usage, and time-of-use rates that enable customers to adjust their energy usage to reduce electric demand during peak hours. In addition, advances in cellular phones have made it possible and more convenient for customers to monitor and adjust their electricity usage at any time from most any location.

Although the Commission has through prior DSM/EE proceedings and general rate cases obtained much information about how technological and other developments affect DSM/EE programs and savings, the Chair concludes that the Commission, DEC, ratepayers, the Public Staff and other stakeholders will benefit from additional testimony in DEC's 2022 proceeding addressing these developments. As a result, the Chair finds good cause to issue this Order requiring DEC and the Public Staff to file testimony in response to the Commission Questions attached hereto as Appendix A, and allowing other parties to this docket to file such testimony if they desire to do so. Finally, the Chair finds good cause to serve this Order on all parties who participated in DEC's 2021 DSM/EE proceeding in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1249.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That when Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, files its 2022 DSM/EE rider application and testimony it shall include in its testimony and exhibits responses to the Commission Questions attached hereto as Appendix A;
2. That when the Public Staff files its testimony in this matter it shall include in its testimony and exhibits responses to the Commission Questions attached hereto as Appendix A, and/or provide information responsive to DEC's responses to said Commission Questions;
3. That other persons who are granted intervention in this docket may file testimony and exhibits in response to the Commission Questions attached hereto as Appendix A, and/or provide information responsive to DEC's responses to said Commission Questions; and

4. That the Chief Clerk shall serve a copy of this Order by electronic means on all parties to Docket No. E-7, Sub 1249.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 17th day of December, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Erica N. Green". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Erica N. Green, Deputy Clerk

## APPENDIX A

### Commission Questions

1. Describe any impact that the full deployment of AMI and Customer Connect has had or is expected to have on the implementation of EE and DSM programs and rider calculations.
2. Has DEC identified any ways to leverage AMI and Customer Connect to increase the effectiveness and/or reduce the cost of its EE and DSM programs?
3. Describe in detail any cost savings or increased cost effectiveness that can be attributed to DEC's deployment of AMI and Customer Connect.
4. Provide an update on the progress of expanding the use of customer data in determining EE and DSM savings in program evaluations and cost effectiveness tests.
5. Provide a table comparing the performance of DEC's DSM/EE portfolio's costs and savings during the 2020 DSM/EE rider test year with the performance in the 2021 DSM/EE rider test year.
6. Include in the same table a comparison of DEC's forecasted DSM/EE kWh savings and actually achieved kWh savings during the same test year periods stated above.
7. Provide a response to Public Staff witness Williamson's testimony in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1249 related to the provisions of Commission Rule R8-69(b)(5) as applied to the overlap of AMI informed services and the specialized tips supported by the MyHER EE program.
8. How does DEC distinguish between the organic energy savings impact of using AMI versus the energy savings from the MyHER program?
9. Does DEC have metrics that show the number of MyHER participants that have utilized new AMI/Customer Connect capabilities, such as the percentage of MyHer customers that have visited the AMI usage web site? If so, provide that information.
10. Provide a copy of the most recent MyHER EM&V report.
11. Describe how DEC will integrate its new dynamic pricing rates into its existing EE and DSM programs.
12. Describe any impacts that DEC's new dynamic pricing tariffs are expected to have on existing EE and DSM program marketing, implementation, cost effectiveness calculations and evaluation. For example, will the savings attributed to the implementation

of an EE measure for a customer subscribed to a dynamic pricing tariff be different from those of a customer on a traditional rate structure?

13. Provide a summary of key DSM and/or EE program modifications or additions introduced during and as a product of the DSM/EE collaborative during 2020 and 2021, and estimate the energy savings and economic impacts attributed to those actions.

14. Describe any implications that S.L. 2021-165 will have or is expected to have on DEC's EE and/or DSM programs and the rider application. For example, describe ways in which DEC could or will incorporate EE program savings into its calculations related to carbon production to meet the carbon reduction goal mandated in S.L 2021-165.