

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION  
RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 674

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of  
Application by Virginia Electric and Power )  
Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North )  
Carolina, for Approval of Renewable Energy ) **NOTICE OF AFFIDAVIT**  
and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard )  
Cost Recovery Rider Under N.C. Gen. Stat. )  
§ 62-133.8 and Commission Rule R8-67 )

NOW COMES THE PUBLIC STAFF - North Carolina Utilities Commission,  
by and through its Executive Director, Christopher J. Ayers, as constituted by  
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-15, and gives notice that the Affidavit of:

Darrus K. Cofield, Manager, Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst,  
Accounting Division  
Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission  
430 North Salisbury Street - Dobbs Building  
4326 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

will be used in evidence at the hearing in this docket scheduled for November 28,  
2023, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-68. The affiant will not be called to testify orally and  
will not be subject to cross-examination unless an opposing party or the Commission  
demands the right of cross-examination by notice mailed or delivered to the  
proponent at least five days prior to the hearing, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-68.

THEREFORE, the Public Staff moves that the Affidavit of Darrus K. Cofield  
be admitted into evidence in the absence of notice pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-68.

Respectfully submitted this the 7th day of November 2023.

PUBLIC STAFF  
Christopher J. Ayers  
Executive Director

Lucy E. Edmondson  
Chief Counsel

Electronically submitted  
/s/ Thomas J. Felling  
Staff Attorney  
[thomas.felling@psncuc.nc.gov](mailto:thomas.felling@psncuc.nc.gov)

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DOCKET NO. E-22, SUB 674

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of  
Application by Virginia Electric and Power )  
Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North )  
Carolina, for Approval of Renewable Energy ) **AFFIDAVIT OF**  
and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard Cost ) **DARRUS K. COFIELD**  
Recovery Rider Under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62- )  
133.8 and Commission Rule R8-67 )

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF WAKE

I, Darrus K. Cofield, first being duly sworn, do depose and say:

I am a Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst with the Accounting Division of the Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission. A summary of my education and experience is attached to this affidavit as Appendix A.

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.8(h) provides that the State's electric power suppliers may recover their reasonable and prudently incurred incremental costs of compliance with the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS) through an annual rider charge. Pursuant to Commission Rule R8-67, the REPS rider will be recovered over the same period as the utility's fuel cost rider. Rule R8-67 also provides for a REPS experience modification factor (REPS EMF) rider, which is utilized to "true-up" the recovery of reasonable and

prudently incurred incremental REPS compliance costs incurred during the test period established for each annual rider proceeding.

The purpose of my affidavit is to present the results of the Public Staff's investigation of the REPS EMF rider proposed by Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina (DENC or the Company) in this proceeding, based on incremental REPS compliance costs incurred and revenues recorded from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023 (REPS EMF period or test period). The passage of Session Law 2023-138 on October 10, 2023, revised N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.8, and REPS became the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (CEPS), which added nuclear energy as resource for compliance. Because DENC's REPS Compliance Report was filed prior to the effective date of S.L. 2023-138 and uses both a historic test period and a prospective billing period, I will continue to use the term REPS in this docket, while noting that this will be titled the CEPS Rider in the upcoming 2024 calendar year filings.

On August 15, 2023, DENC filed its application, testimony, and exhibits related to the incremental costs incurred for compliance with the REPS, and filed an amended application on September 25, 2023. DENC witness Jessica N. Chargois presented the Company's proposed annual and monthly REPS EMF Rider (Rider RPE) increments for each of the North Carolina retail customer classes. Company Exhibit No. JNC-1, Schedule 3 as amended sets forth the proposed annual EMF increment riders of \$0.24, \$1.33, and \$8.90 per retail customer account, excluding the regulatory fee, for the residential, commercial,

and industrial classes, respectively. Company Exhibit No. JNC-1, Schedule 3 as amended also sets forth on the proposed monthly EMF increment riders of \$0.02, \$0.11, and \$0.74 per retail customer account, excluding the regulatory fee, for the residential, commercial, and industrial classes, respectively.

The Public Staff's investigation included procedures intended to evaluate whether the Company properly determined its per books incremental compliance costs and revenues and complied with the annual REPS revenue cap during the test period. These procedures included a review of the Company's filings and other Company data provided to the Public Staff. Additionally, the procedures included a review of certain specific types of expenditures impacting the Company's costs, including research and development costs. Performing the Public Staff's investigation also required the review of responses to written data requests.

Based upon the Public Staff's investigation, I recommend that DENC's proposed annual and monthly REPS EMF increment riders for each customer class, as set forth on Company Supplemental Exhibit No. JNC-1, Schedule 3 as amended, be approved. These amounts produce annual increment REPS EMF riders of \$0.24, \$1.33, and \$8.90 per customer account, excluding the regulatory fee, and proposed monthly riders of \$0.02, \$0.11, and \$0.74 per customer account, excluding the regulatory fee, for the residential, commercial, and industrial classes, respectively.

This completes my affidavit.

*Darrus K. Cofield*  
Darrus K. Cofield

Sworn to and subscribed before me

On this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023.

Jessica Heironimus  
(Printed Name)

*Jessica Heironimus*  
Notary Public



My Commission Expires: June 4, 2028

**QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

Darrus K. Cofield

I am a graduate of Capella University, with a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Finance, and of East Carolina University, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics and Business minor.

I joined the Public Staff in January 2023, and my duties consist of: (1) the examination and analysis of testimony, exhibits, books and records, and other data presented by utilities and other parties involved in Commission proceedings; and (2) the preparation and presentation to the Commission of testimony, exhibits, and other documents in those proceedings. I have worked on water and sewer contiguous extension applications, electric securitization riders, electric affiliate and land sales contracts, DEP REPS rider, and electric rate cases.

Prior to joining the Public Staff, I worked for the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer as a Financial Analyst for the State and Local Government Commission. I have over five years of governmental finance experience assisting municipalities, counties, school boards, and other governmental units with the financing of projects throughout the State of North Carolina. Those projects consisted of Installment Purchase Contracts, USDA Revenue Bond, Revenue Bond, State Revolving Loans, State Obligation Bonds, and several other financing instruments.





**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing on all parties of record or to the attorney of record of such party in accordance with Commission Rule R1-39, by United States mail, postage prepaid, first class; by hand delivery; or by means of facsimile or electronic delivery upon agreement of the receiving party.

This the 7th day of November, 2023.

Electronically submitted  
/s/Thomas J. Felling