

**NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION STAFF CONFERENCE**

**January 8, 2024**

The Regular Commission Staff Conference of the North Carolina Utilities Commission was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., with Chair Mitchell presiding.

The following were present:

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Duffley  
Commissioner Hughes  
Commissioner McKissick  
Commissioner Kemerait  
Commissioner Brawley  
Commissioner Tucker

**COMMISSION STAFF:** Mr. Watson, Mr. Green, Ms. Fennell, Ms. Duffy, Ms. Hicks, Ms. Hilburn, Mr. Barber, Ms. Jayasheela, Ms. Winstead; Mr. McCoy

**PUBLIC STAFF:** Mr. Ayers, Ms. Edmondson, Mr. Creech, Mr. Josey, Mr. Freeman, Ms. Keyworth, Mr. Felling, Mr. Bernier, Ms. Newell, Ms. Boswell, Mr. Hunter, Mr. McLawhorn, Mr. D. Williamson, Mr. Lucas, Mr. T. Williamson, Mr. Junis, Ms. Darden

**ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

**COURT REPORTER:** Ms. Clayton

**ELECTRIC***MODIFICATION AND FURTHER EXTENSION OF WAIVER OF COMMISSION RULE R12-11(m)(2)***Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, and Duke Energy Progress, LLC**

1. Docket Nos. E-2, Sub 1214 and E-7, Sub 1210 – Motion filed by Duke Energy for modification and further extension of waiver of Commission Rule R12-11(m)(2), which requires premise visits for disconnection notices – proposed order to be provided by Commission Staff (T. Williamson/Josey)

On June 14, 2019, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP), and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC, collectively Duke or Companies), filed a joint motion for partial waiver of the portion of Commission Rule R12-11 that requires an onsite, physical attempt at customer communication immediately prior to disconnection for non-payment. Commission Rule R12-11(m)(2), in pertinent part, requires personnel from the Companies to attempt to personally contact a residential customer at the customer's home in order to notify the customer of an immediate, pending disconnection of electric utility service for nonpayment on the day that the disconnection is to take place. Pursuant to the rule, the personal visit to the customer follows written and telephone notifications about the bill delinquency and the opportunities available to the customer to bring the account current. The purpose of the in-person visit is to provide the customer with one final opportunity to make a payment or other arrangements to avoid disconnection.

The Public Staff stated that it does not object to the waiver extension and modifications requested by Duke.

Kathleen Richard, counsel for Duke, introduced Mitchell Carmosino, General Manager, Accounts Receivable at Duke Energy Corporation, responded to questions from the Commission.

This item was taken to Executive Conference for further discussion and consideration.

**NATURAL GAS & ELECTRIC***ACCEPTANCE OF MULTI-FUEL CALCULATION METHOD***Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, and Duke Energy Progress, LLC**

2. Docket No. G-9, Sub 699 et al. – Request filed by Duke Energy for acceptance of the multi-fuel calculation method necessary to determine the numbers and types of renewable energy certificates earned from renewable natural gas produced by an anaerobic digester and combusted at a Duke Energy combined cycle plant (Lucas/Creech)

On May 10, 2017, the Commission issued its Order Approving Agreement with Conditions in Docket No. G-9, Sub 699, approving a Receipt Interconnect Agreement, as amended by First Amendment to Receipt Interconnect Agreement (RIA), between Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont) and Carbon Cycle Energy North Carolina LLC, d/b/a C2e Renewables NC (C2e).

On May 1, 2020, Piedmont filed its Second Amendment to Receipt Interconnect Agreement, to revise certain provisions of the RIA by allocating C2e's original injection rights under its RIA between C2e and Align RNG North Carolina, LLC, d/b/a Align Renewable Natural Gas. On June 11, 2020, the Commission issued its Order Approving Second Amendment to Agreement.

On December 18, 2023, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, and Duke Energy Progress, LLC (collectively, Duke), filed a request (Request) seeking Commission acceptance of its multi-fuel calculation method pursuant to Appendix C of the North Carolina Renewable Energy Tracking System [NC-RETS] Operating Procedures in Appendix E of the Commission's Order Amending Rules R8-64 through R8-69 and Approving Final Operating Procedures for NC-RETS issued in Docket No. E-100, Subs 113 and 121, on January 31, 2011 (Appendix C). Duke states that it plans to purchase RNG from C2e, which is constructing an anaerobic digester in Duplin County, North Carolina, that will use swine waste, poultry waste, and other feedstocks as fuels. The multi-fuel calculations are necessary for Duke to determine the numbers and types of renewable energy certificates (RECs) attributable to each feedstock.

The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the Request and determined that it meets the requirements of Appendix C.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission accept Duke's proposed multi-fuel calculation method.

It was moved and passed that the Public Staff's recommendation be adopted.

**SUPPLEMENTAL WATER AND WASTEWATER**

*ORDER DISCHARGING EMERGENCY OPERATOR, APPOINTING EMERGENCY OPERATOR, AND REQUIRING CUSTOMER NOTICE*

**GWWT, LLC**

3. Docket No. W-1139, Sub 4 – Motion of the Public Staff to Replace Emergency Operator for wastewater treatment service for Ginguite Woods Subdivision, Dare County, North Carolina (Darden//Lentz/Newell/Bernier)

On January 3, 2024, the Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) filed a verified Motion to Replace Emergency Operator (Motion) in the above-captioned matter. The Motion requests that the Commission issue an order discharging Enviro-Tech of North Carolina, Inc. (Enviro-Tech), and appointing GWWT, LLC (GWWT), as the emergency operator of the wastewater treatment system serving 38 customers in the Ginguite Woods subdivision (Ginguite Woods) in Dare County, North Carolina. The verified motion also states that GWWT has the necessary ability and is willing to perform as emergency operator of the wastewater system in Ginguite Woods. The Public Staff also recommended conditionally approving increased rates and requiring customer notice.

The Public Staff recommended that the Commission grant the Public Staff's Motion and discharge Enviro-Tech as emergency operator, appoint GWWT as emergency operator, conditionally approve increased rates, and require customer notice.

Edward Finley, counsel for GWWT, LLC, responded to questions from the Commission.

This item was taken to Executive Conference for further discussion and consideration.

The Minutes of the Regular Commission Staff Conference of December 18, 2023, were approved.

Minutes prepared by Le Anne Ackerman.