

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1095D
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1100D
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 682D

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
Third-Party Independent Audits of)	PUBLIC STAFF MOTION FOR
Affiliate Transactions Pursuant to)	EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE
Regulatory Condition No. 5.8)	STATEMENT

NOW COMES THE PUBLIC STAFF – North Carolina Utilities Commission (the “Public Staff”), by and through its Executive Director, Christopher J. Ayers, and submits its Motion for an Extension of Time and in support thereof, states as follows:

1. On January 15, 2020, pursuant to subsection (b) of Regulatory Condition No. 5.8, as approved in the Commission’s *Order Approving Merger Subject to Regulatory Conditions and Code of Conduct*, dated September 29, 2016, in Docket Nos. E-2, Sub 1095, E-7, Sub 1100, and G-9, Sub 682, the Public Staff proposed that Schumaker & Company (“Schumaker”) be chosen as the third-party, independent auditor for the audit of certain affiliate matters involving DEC, DEP and Piedmont.

2. On January 24, 2020, the Commission issued an Order allowing other parties the opportunity to file comments and propose additional auditors by February 10, 2020. No comments were filed.

3. On February 24, 2020, the Commission issued an Order selecting Schumaker as the third-party, independent auditor and requested that the Public Staff and the Duke Utilities file a proposed schedule for the audit, including the filing of the auditor's final report.

4. On March 17, 2020, the Public Staff and the Duke Utilities filed a proposed schedule for the audit, which the Commission approved on March 26, 2020, setting a deadline of July 23, 2020 for the auditor's final report.

5. On July 21, 2020, the Public Staff and the Duke Utilities filed a joint motion for an extension of time for the Public Staff to file the Schumaker audit report, which was granted by Commission Order dated July 22, 2020.

6. On July 28, 2020, the Public Staff filed the Final Report on the Affiliate Audit of the Duke Utilities by Schumaker (the "audit report").

7. Based on past procedure with respect to audits pursuant to Regulatory Condition No. 5.8, the Duke Utilities and the Public Staff filed a proposed procedural schedule on August 25, 2020, which was approved by the Commission by Order dated August 27, 2020.

8. The procedural schedule provides that the Duke Utilities and the Public Staff are to file a joint statement or separate statements detailing points of agreement and disagreement with respect to the audit report on November 4, 2020.

9. The Public Staff has met with the Duke Utilities to discuss the utilities' areas of agreement and disagreement with the recommendations made in the audit report. As a result of the conversation with the Duke Utilities, the Public Staff requested information from them, some of which it has not yet received.

10. The Public Staff and counsel for the Duke Utilities met with Schumaker on November 3, 2020, to discuss the audit report and the Duke Utilities' areas of disagreement and to also gain clarification on some of the recommendations made in the report.

11. Due to the press of other matters and the need to review additional information from the Duke Utilities, the Public Staff needs additional time to adequately formulate its positions and file its statement.

12. The Public Staff, therefore, requests until November 13, 2020, to file its statement. The Public Staff is authorized to represent that the Duke Utilities do not object to this request.

WHEREFORE, the Public Staff prays:

1. That the Commission grant the Public Staff's request for an extension of time to file its statement regarding the Schumaker audit report recommendations;

2. That the Commission extend the time for the Public Staff to file its statement until November 13, 2020; and

3. For such other and further relief as the Commission may deem just and proper.

This the 3rd day of November, 2020.

PUBLIC STAFF
Christopher J. Ayers
Executive Director

Dianna W. Downey
Chief Counsel

Electronically submitted
/s/ Gina C. Holt
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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

This the 3rd day of November, 2020.

Electronically submitted
/s/ Gina C. Holt