## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1287 DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1261

## BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

| DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1287   |  |
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| In the Matter of<br>Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC, for<br>Approval of Smart \$aver Solar Energy Efficiency<br>Program | ORDER GRANTING LEAVE TO<br>FILE REPLY COMMENTS AND |
| DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1261   | EXTENDING TIME FOR RESPONSES TO COMMENTS           |
| In the Matter of Application by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Approval of Smart \$aver Solar Energy Efficiency Program          | )<br>)<br>)  |

BY THE CHAIR: On December 16, 2021, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP), in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1287, and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC, collectively Duke), in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1261, filed applications for approval of new energy efficiency (EE) programs, both of which are called the Smart \$aver Solar Energy Efficiency Program.

Pursuant to Commission Rule R8-68(d)(2), after an electric public utility files a request for approval or modification of a demand-side management or EE program the Public Staff and other interested parties have 30 days from the date of filing to file a protest pursuant to Rule R1-6, a petition for intervention pursuant to Rule R1-19, or comments. The electric public utility has the opportunity to respond to the petitions for intervention, protests, and comments within 10 days.

After the Commission granted two motions for extension of time, the Public Staff and other intervenors filed comments on March 15, 2022.

On March 21, 2022, North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, and Vote Solar (Joint Intervenors), filed a motion requesting leave for intervenors to file reply comments. Joint Intervenors stated that in comments filed by the North Carolina Attorney General's Office (AGO), the AGO asserted that the Commission should consider requiring an investigation of the benefits of customer sited generation, and should take a holistic approach to its review of the Smart \$aver proposal, including consideration of carbon reduction planning and new net metering tariffs, two matters that are pending before the Commission in other dockets. Joint Intervenors

further noted that in the Public Staff's comments the Public Staff contended that there are several reasons why the Smart \$aver program should not be approved. Joint Intervenors requested that all intervenors be allowed to file reply comments on the AGO's and the Public Staff's concerns by March 25, 2022. Finally, Joint Intervenors stated that they contacted counsel for the parties to this proceeding and are authorized to represent that the Solar Energy Industries Alliance affirmatively supports the motion, and that Duke, the Public Staff, AGO, and Carolina Industrial Group for Fair Utility Rates II and III do not object to the motion.

Based on the foregoing and the record in these dockets, the Chair finds good cause to grant Joint Intervenors motion and allow the Public Staff and other intervenors to file reply comments on or before March 31, 2022. Further, the Chair finds good cause to extend the time for Duke to respond to all initial and reply comments to May 3, 2022.

## IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That on or before March 31, 2022, the Public Staff and other intervenors may file reply comments to the parties' initial comments on DEP's and DEC's applications for approval of their Smart \$aver Solar Energy Efficiency Programs; and
- 2. That DEP and DEC shall have the right to respond to all comments and reply comments on or before May 3, 2022.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 25th day of March, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Erica N. Green, Deputy Clerk

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