STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1213 DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1214 DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1187 DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1219

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1213)
In the Matter of Petition of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for Approval of Prepaid Advantage Program)))
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1214))
In the Matter of Application by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for Adjustment of Rates and Charges Applicable to Electric Utility Service in North Carolina)) ORDER GRANTING) JOINT MOTION AND) FURTHER RESCHEDULING) CONSOLIDATED, REMOTE) HEARING
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1187))
In the Matter of Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, for an Accounting Order to Defer Incremental Storm Damage Expenses Incurred as a Result of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Winter Storm Diego)))))
DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1219))
In the Matter of Application by Duke Energy Progress, LLC, for Adjustment of Rates and Charges Applicable to Electric Utility Service in North Carolina))))

BY THE CHAIR: On July 27, 2020, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC), Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP; together with DEC, Duke or the Companies), and the Public Staff (collectively, Movants) made a Joint Motion to Postpone Hearing and Additional

Procedural deadlines in the above-captioned proceeding. In the Motion, Movants request the following:

- (i) That the remote, consolidated evidentiary hearing in the abovecaptioned dockets, currently scheduled to begin on July 28, 2020, be postponed until Monday, August 24, 2020;
- (ii) That the Commission accept Movants' filing of partial settlements in these dockets on or before August 3, 2020 as the Companies' response in satisfaction of the Commission's July 21, 2020 Order on Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's and Duke Energy Progress, LLC's Second Supplemental Testimony (July 21 Order on Second Supplemental Testimony), and grant the Companies an extension of time to file such response from July 27, 2020, when such response is currently due, until the partial settlements are filed with the Commission; and
- (iii) That the Companies have eight additional days, or until August 5, 2020, to file the additional testimony and exhibits related to the Grid Improvement Plan requested by the Commission in its July 23, 2020 Order Requiring Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, and Duke Energy Progress, LLC, to File Additional Testimony on Grid Improvement Plans and Coal Combustion Residual Costs (July 23 Order Requiring Additional Testimony).

In support of the continuance, Movants state that on July 27, 2020, the Public Staff reached partial settlements in principle with each of the Companies regarding several remaining issues involved in DEC's and DEP's pending rate cases (July 27 Settlements), including issues that otherwise would have been litigated between the parties during the consolidated hearing. Movants further state that the Public Staff and the Companies will file the stipulations and agreements memorializing the July 27 Settlements on or before August 3, 2020, and they anticipate that the July 27 Settlements will eliminate the need for a substantial amount of cross-examination of witnesses. Moreover, Movants believe that the delay in the hearing schedule will give all parties and the Commission an opportunity to review the July 27 Settlements prior to beginning the hearing, which potentially will lead to shorter and more efficient hearings.

The Movants further note that, per the July 21 Order on Second Supplemental Testimony, the Companies are required to file a statement on or before July 27, 2020, electing whether to adopt or withdraw their Second Supplemental Testimony filed on July 2, 2020. The July 27 Settlements include an agreed timeline for the review and audit by the Public Staff of the Companies' Second Supplemental Testimony and the impact of the Companies' Second Supplemental Testimony on the partial settlements previously reached with the Public Staff. Accordingly, the Companies believe that the July 27 Settlements, once filed, will satisfy the Commission's directives to select an option, and therefore request that the July 27 Settlements serve as the response to the Commission's Order. To that end, Movants request that the Commission extend the time at which the

Companies must respond to the July 21 Order on Second Supplemental Testimony through the date that Movants file the July 27 Settlements with the Commission.

Finally, the Companies request an additional eight days, through August 5, 2020, to file the requested additional testimony and exhibits regarding the Grid Improvement Plan pursuant to the July 23 Order Requiring Additional Testimony. The Companies make this request to allow Movants additional time to prepare and file the requested testimony to finalize the July 27 Settlements and related settlement testimony. The Companies state that with additional time to focus on the July 27 Settlements, the parties can improve the efficiency of the consolidated hearings by focusing the presentation of evidence and cross examination.

After careful consideration, the Chair finds good cause to grant the Joint Motion in anticipation of Movants' filing of the July 27 Settlements and supporting testimony and exhibits on or before August 3, 2020. The Chair notes that the Joint Motion does not indicate that any other parties were consulted prior to the Motion's being filed; however, the additional three week delay in the hearing should provide the Commission and parties to the proceeding opportunity to review the July 27 Settlements and to prepare for hearing thereon.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That the consolidated, remote hearing in the above-captioned proceeding shall be rescheduled to begin on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.;
- 2. That the July 27 Settlements, when filed, shall be accepted as the Companies' response to the Commission's July 21 Order on Second Supplemental Testimony, and that the deadline to respond to the July 21 Order on Second Supplemental Testimony shall be extended to the date the July 27 Settlements are filed; and
- 3. That the Companies shall have until August 5, 2020, to file the additional testimony and exhibits regarding the Grid Improvement Plan ordered to be filed pursuant to the Commission's July 23 Order Requiring Additional Testimony.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 27th day of July, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk