# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1321

#### BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of	
Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC,	) ORDER SCHEDULING HEARING,
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and	) REQUIRING FILING OF TESTIMONY
Commission Rule R8-55 Relating to Fuel	) ESTABLISHING DISCOVERY
and Fuel-Related Charge Adjustments	) GUIDELINES, AND REQUIRING
for Electric Utilities	) PUBLIC NOTICE

BY THE COMMISSION: Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.2, the Commission is required to conduct annual fuel charge adjustment proceedings for electric utilities engaged in the generation or production of electricity by fossil or nuclear fuels. Commission Rule R8-55 schedules an annual cost of fuel and fuel-related costs adjustment hearing for Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP) and requires that DEP use a test period of 12 months ended March 31.

On June 13, 2023, DEP filed its application in the above-captioned docket. By its application, DEP requests changes in its fuel charges effective for service rendered on and after December 1, 2023. The proposed changes in fuel rates would result in increases of the current fuel rates of all customer classes, with the amount of the increase varying for different customer classes.

The Commission is of the opinion that good cause exists to schedule a hearing on the application. The guidelines regarding discovery in this docket, subject to modification for good cause shown, are as follows:

- 1. Any deposition shall be taken before the deadline for filing of Public Staff and other intervenor testimony. Notice of deposition shall be served on all parties at least seven days prior to the taking of the deposition. Notice of deposition and all other discovery notices, requests and motions shall be served on the appropriate parties by hand delivery or facsimile, or by electronic delivery if the receiving party has agreed to receipt by electronic delivery.
- 2. Any motion for subpoena of a witness to appear at the expert witness hearing shall be filed with the Commission before the deadline for filing of the Public Staff and intervenor testimony, shall be served on the person sought to be subpoenaed at or before the time of filing with the Commission, and shall make a reasonable showing that the evidence of such person will be material and relevant to an issue in the proceeding. See N.C.G.S. § 62-62. Unless an objection is filed, the Chief Clerk shall issue the requested subpoena 2 business days after such motion is filed.

- 3. Formal discovery requests related to the application and DEP's prefiled direct testimony shall be served on DEP not later than 14 calendar days prior to the deadline for filing of Public Staff and other intervenor testimony. The party served shall have up to ten calendar days to file with the Commission objections to the discovery requests on an item-by-item basis, but in no event shall objections be filed later than ten calendar days prior to the deadline for filing of Public Staff and intervenor testimony.
- 4. Formal discovery requests related to the prefiled direct testimony of the Public Staff or intervenors shall be served not later than five calendar days after the filing of that party's testimony. The party served shall have up to three business days to file with the Commission objections to the discovery requests on an item-by-item basis, but in no event shall objections be filed later than nine calendar days after the filing of that party's testimony.
- 5. Formal discovery requests related to the prefiled rebuttal testimony shall be served not later than three business days after such testimony is filed. The party served shall have up to three calendar days to file with the Commission objections to the discovery requests on an item-by-item basis, but in no event shall objections be filed later than three business days after the rebuttal testimony was filed. Discovery related to rebuttal testimony shall be limited to new material introduced in such rebuttal testimony and will be carefully scrutinized upon objection that such discovery should have been sought during the initial period of discovery.
- 6. Discovery requests need not be filed with the Commission when served; however, any party filing objections shall attach a copy of the relevant discovery request to the objections. Each discovery request, or part thereof, to which no objection is filed shall be answered by the time objections are due, subject to other agreement of the affected parties or other order of the Commission. Upon the filing of objections, the party seeking discovery shall have two calendar days to file with the Commission a motion to compel, and the party objecting to discovery shall have one calendar day thereafter to file a response. All objections, motions to compel, and responses shall be served on the other affected party at or before the time of filing with the Commission.
- 7. A party shall not be granted an extension of time to pursue discovery due to that party's late intervention or other delay in initiating discovery.

The Commission recognizes that in the past most discovery has been conducted in an informal manner without the need for Commission involvement or enforcement, and that such has been generally successful. The above guidelines are without prejudice to the parties conducting informal discovery or exchanging information by agreement at any time with the understanding that such will not be enforceable by the Commission if outside the guidelines.

Finally, the Commission finds good cause to require that DEP, the Public Staff, and other parties who file supporting exhibits in Excel format shall provide electronic versions of the exhibits filed in native Excel format, including all supporting

tabs/worksheets and formulas, to the Commission Staff within three business days of the filing of such exhibits.

### IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

- 1. That a public hearing shall be, and is hereby, scheduled to begin immediately following the hearings in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1320, which is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, for the purpose of considering the annual fuel and fuel-related charge adjustment proceeding for DEP;
- 2. That any person having an interest in this proceeding may file a petition to intervene stating such interest on or before Tuesday, August 29, 2023;
- 3. That the direct testimony and exhibits of the Public Staff and other intervenors shall be filed on or before Tuesday, August 29, 2023;
- 4. That DEP may file rebuttal testimony and exhibits on or before Thursday, September 7, 2023;
- 5. That all parties filing supporting exhibits in either PDF or Excel format shall provide the Commission Staff electronic versions of the exhibits filed in native Excel format via email at NCUCexhibits@ncuc.net, including all of the supporting worksheets and formulas, within three days of the filing of such exhibits (or within three business days of the issuance of this order if already filed with the Commission), and that DEP and all other parties filing exhibits and workpapers that include tables of numbers and calculations shall provide the Public Staff and any other party upon request an electronic version of all such exhibits and workpapers, with formulas intact;
- 6. That DEP shall publish the Notice attached hereto as Appendix A in a newspaper or newspapers having general circulation in its service area once a week for two successive weeks beginning at least 45 days prior to the hearing;
- 7. That DEP shall file affidavits of publication on or before the date of the hearing; and

8. That the parties shall comply with the discovery guidelines established herein.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 30th day of June, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk

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## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1321

### BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC,	)	
Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.2 and	)	
Commission Rule R8-55 Relating to Fuel	)	PUBLIC NOTICE
and Fuel-Related Charge Adjustments	)	
for Electric Utilities	)	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission has scheduled a public hearing in the annual fuel and fuel-related adjustment charge proceeding for Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP). The public hearing is scheduled to begin immediately following the hearings in Docket No. E-2, Subs 1320, which is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g).

This proceeding is being held pursuant to the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-133.2 and Commission Rule R8-55 for the purpose of determining whether an increment or decrement rider is required to reflect changes in fuel and fuel-related costs over or under the base fuel rate established for DEP in its last general rate case.

On June 13, 2023, DEP filed its application in the above-captioned docket. By its application, DEP requests Commission approval for an increase in its fuel and fuel-related costs currently in effect, with the changes being effective for service rendered on and after December 1, 2023. By its application, DEP proposes a net a fuel and fuel-related cost recovery rider increase of 5.1%, on average, to customers' bills. If approved, DEP's request would result in increases of the current fuel rates of all customer classes, with the amount of the increase varying for different customer classes. For example, the net effect of DEP's request as filed would increase the monthly bill of a typical residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours per month by \$6.17, excluding the regulatory fee.

Further information may be obtained from the Office of the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, Dobbs Building, 5th Floor, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, where a copy of DEP's application and testimony is available for review by the public, or on the Commission's website at www.ncuc.gov.

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information that the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, c/o Consumer Protection-Utilities, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-9001. Written statements may be emailed to utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov.

Written statements are not evidence unless persons appear at a public hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements.

Any person desiring to intervene in the proceeding as a formal party of record should file a petition under North Carolina Utilities Commission Rules R1-5 and R1-19 on or before Tuesday, August 29, 2023. Such petitions should be filed with the Chief Clerk of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. The direct testimony and exhibits of expert witnesses to be presented by intervenors should also be filed with the Commission on or before Tuesday, August 29, 2023.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 30th day of June, 2023.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk