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DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB ~~113~~

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BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

In the Matter of
Rulemaking Proceeding to Implement) COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Session Law 2007-397) CONCERNING NCSEA PETITION

NOW COMES THE PUBLIC STAFF – North Carolina Utilities Commission, by and through its Executive Director, Robert P. Gruber, and respectfully submits its comments and recommendations on the Petition filed on July 17, 2008 in this docket by the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA) as follows:

1. At page 27 of its Order Adopting Final Rules, issued in this docket on February 29, 2008, the Commission stated "that a third party REC [renewable energy certificate] tracking system would be beneficial in assisting the Commission and stakeholders in tracking the creation, retirement and ownership of RECs for compliance with Senate Bill 3 [N.C. Session Law 2007-397]."

2. In its Petition, NCSEA has set out a proposed specification for a North Carolina REC tracking system. Such a specification, if acceptable to the Commission and interested parties, will significantly advance the process of developing a tracking system and enabling the Commission to monitor compliance by the State's electric power suppliers with the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (REPS) established by Senate Bill 3.

3. The Public Staff has reviewed the specification proposed in NCSEA's Petition. Although the Public Staff does not possess extensive technical expertise in the development of software systems, it is the Public Staff's belief that the specification, in general, provides a reasonable and desirable basis for the development of the North Carolina REC tracking system. The Public Staff notes that the proposed specification is derived from the REC tracking system currently in use in Texas, and based on information available to the Public Staff, it appears that the Texas system has been successful.

4. The Public Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order establishing a deadline for interested parties to file comments on, and proposed modifications to, NCSEA's proposed specification. In the Public Staff's view, it would be desirable for the Commission's order to encourage all parties not only to identify any problems in the specification but also to propose revised language correcting such problems.

5. In the event that comments are received noting difficulties with the specification or proposing changes to it, the Public Staff recommends that the Commission establish a roundtable for the purpose of reaching consensus on a specification for the REC tracking system. If no proposed changes or critical comments

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are received, the Public Staff recommends that the Commission approve the specification as the basis for development of the North Carolina REC tracking system.

WHEREFORE, the Public Staff prays:

1. That the Commission establish a deadline for interested parties to file comments on, and proposed modifications to, NCSEA's proposed specification;
2. That the Commission establish a roundtable for the purpose of reaching consensus on a specification for the REC tracking system, in the event that comments are received noting difficulties with the specification or proposing changes to it;
3. That the Commission approve the specification as the basis for development of the North Carolina REC tracking system, in the event that no proposed changes or critical comments are received; and
4. For such other and further relief as the Commission may deem just and proper.

This the 21st day of July, 2008.

PUBLIC STAFF
Robert P. Gruber
Executive Director

Antoinette R. Wike
Chief Counsel



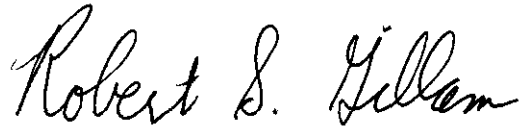
Robert S. Gillam
Staff Attorney

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of these Comments and Recommendations Concerning NCSEA Petition has been served on all parties of record or their attorneys, or both, by depositing a copy in the United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, properly addressed.

This the 21st day of July, 2008.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert S. Gillam". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert S. Gillam