

**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  
DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1193

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of )	
Applications by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, )	ORDER GRANTING MOTION
and Duke Energy Progress, LLC, for )	TO EXCUSE ADDITIONAL
Adjustment of Rates and Charges Applicable )	WITNESSES
to Electric Utility Service in North Carolina )	

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONERS: On September 30, 2019, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC), filed an application for a general rate case in Docket No. E-7, Sub 1214. On October 30, 2019, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP; together with DEC, Duke), filed an application for a general rate case in Docket No. E-2, Sub 1219. Docket Nos. E-7, Sub 1213 and E-7, Sub 1187 were consolidated with the DEC rate case by orders issued November 20, 2019, and June 26, 2020, respectively. Docket No. E-2, Sub 1193 was consolidated with the DEP rate case by order issued August 11, 2020.

After postponing the expert witness hearings in these rate cases due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission issued an Order Adopting Procedures for Expert Witness Hearings on June 17, 2020, which, among other things, consolidated the expert witness hearings with regard to certain specific issues, ordered the consolidated hearing to be conducted remotely, and stated that separate hearings would be held for DEC and DEP on non-consolidated issues. On July 27, 2020, in response to a motion by Duke and the Public Staff, the Commission issued an order rescheduling the consolidated, remote hearing to begin on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

In response to the partial settlement between Duke and the Public Staff, the Commission issued an order on August 4, 2020, requiring Duke to further consult with the parties and file an updated list of witnesses, order of witnesses, and estimated times for cross-examination of each witness for all portions of the evidentiary hearing for the rate case dockets. Duke filed the requested information on August 7, 2020, as ordered. In addition, Duke filed a Joint Motion to Excuse Additional Witnesses from Attending Evidentiary Hearing and to Recall Previously Excused Witness (Witness Motion). In summary, Duke requested that two witnesses be excused from attending the consolidated hearing, or a portion thereof, and that several witnesses be excused from attending the separate DEC and DEP hearings, as follows:

**Consolidated**

- hearing:** Public Staff witness Randall Woolridge  
Tech Customers witness Kurt Strunk (excused for the Financial and EDIT issues; will testify on Grid Improvement Plan issues.)
- DEC hearing:** DEC witnesses Dylan D'Ascendis and Zachary Kuznar  
Public Staff witness Dustin Metz
- DEP hearing:** DEP witness Dylan D'Ascendis  
Public Staff witness John Hinton

Further, Duke stated that all parties have been consulted and have agreed to waive cross-examination of the above witnesses in the consolidated and separate hearings, as designated. In addition, Duke stated that the Public Staff and Tech Customers consented to having Duke file the Witness Motion on their behalf. Moreover, Duke noted that the Public Staff is authorized to file testimony by September 8, 2020, in response to the May 2020 cost of service updates to be filed by DEC. Duke requested that in the event the Public Staff in its testimony challenges any of the adjustments by DEC, DEC be allowed to recall witness Steven Capps to provide rebuttal testimony for the May 2020 updates only, and that the Public Staff be allowed to reserve approximately fifteen minutes of cross-examination time for witness Capps. Finally, Duke requested that the prefiled testimony and exhibits of the excused witnesses be accepted into evidence.

Based on the foregoing and the records in these dockets, the Presiding Commissioners find good cause to grant the requests included in Duke's Witness Motion.

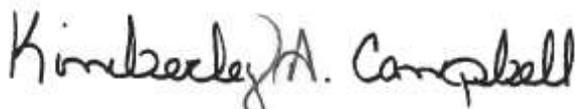
IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the witnesses, as designated in Duke's Witness Motion, are excused from testifying at the expert witness hearing(s) so designated, and the Commission will receive their prefiled testimony and exhibits into evidence at the hearing at which they would have testified; and
2. That DEC and the Public Staff shall be granted the leeway requested in presenting the rebuttal testimony and cross-examination, respectively, of DEC witness Steven Capps.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 13th day of August, 2020.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION



Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk