

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1167
DOCKET NO. E-7, SUB 1166

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC,)	
and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC,)	ORDER GRANTING
Requesting Approval of Solar Rebate)	JOINT MOTION TO AMEND
Program Pursuant to G.S. 62-155(f))	

BY THE COMMISSION: On September 20, 2018, the Commission issued an Order in this proceeding, modifying the first year of the Solar Rebate Program offered by Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP), and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (DEC) (collectively, Duke). That Order also directed Duke to make a third compliance filing and to file with the Commission and publish monthly status updates on Duke's website for each month remaining in 2018 and a final report in January 2019, to contain up-to-date information regarding the amount of capacity installed in 2018 for each participant class.

On October 1, 2018, Duke made its third compliance filing.

On October 5, 2018, Duke filed its first monthly status update.

By its Order of October 24, 2018, the Commission accepted Duke's third compliance filing.

On November 2, 2018, Duke filed its second monthly status update.

On November 7, 2018, Duke, the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association, the Public Staff, and the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (together, Movants) jointly moved to amend the Commission's September 20, 2018 Order modifying the Solar Rebate Program. In support of their motion, Movants state that the Commission, in its September 20, 2018 Order, directed Duke to open its 2019 Solar Rebate Program application process on January 1, 2019, the first day of calendar year 2019. In so ordering, the Commission relied upon the Solar Rebate Program terms outlined in N.C.G.S. § 62-155(f), which states in pertinent part that the Solar Rebate Program will begin on January 1, 2018, and continue until December 31, 2022. For a variety of reasons detailed in the Commission's September 20, 2018 Order, the application window for the 2018 Solar Rebate Program year did not open until July 9, 2018. This resulted in a truncated application period for the first year of the program, which was further compounded by high demand to participate in the Solar Rebate Program. Consequently, the Commission in its September 20, 2018 Order, directed Duke to use a specific starting date for the application process in each subsequent program year. Specifically, on page

5 of its September 20, 2018 Order, the Commission states that “the application window will open on January 1 of each year” remaining in the program.

Movants request that the Commission should amend the Solar Rebate Program administration to allow the annual application window to open on the first business day of each calendar year. In support of this request, Movants state that “opening the application window on January 1, a federal holiday, will cause unnecessary confusion and cost to Duke, solar installers, and, most importantly, potential customers.” Movants further contend that “[d]elaying the opening of the application window to the first business day of the year is a limited delay in time and will not prejudice potential customers. In fact, potential customers will be less prejudiced by opening the application window on the first business day of the year.”

Movants also request that the Commission further amend the Solar Rebate Program to require that those residential customers who received a rebate reservation prior to installation of their eligible generating system complete the installation no later than December 31 in the year in which the reservation was obtained. The current rider language allows residential customers to install a generating facility within 365 days after securing a rebate reservation. While noting that the current tariff language was “not objected to by any of the intervenors in this proceeding,” Movants now contend that it “has the potential to make the [Solar] Rebate Program unwieldy and unpredictable.” The Commission further notes that the practical effect of requiring such installation to be completed before the end of the calendar year, when the application window to obtain a rebate reservation opens at or very near the beginning of that same calendar year, amounts to a difference of a single day in 2019, and, at most, three days, depending on how the calendar days align in subsequent years of the Program.

Based upon the foregoing and the entire record in the above-captioned proceedings, the Commission finds good cause to grant, on a going-forward basis for all future Solar Rebate Program years beginning with 2019, in its entirety the Joint Motion to Amend the Solar Rebate Program. The Commission directs Duke, within ten calendar days following issuance of this Order, (1) to make a compliance filing attaching the final approved version of the tariff, as amended; and (2) to publish notice of these changes on its website and to notify, via electronic correspondence, all prospective applicants who signed up to receive program updates.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 3rd day of December, 2018.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice H. Fulmore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "F".

Janice H. Fulmore, Deputy Clerk