

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2011-158-E

In the Matter of)
)
Application of Duke Energy)
Corporation and Progress Energy, Inc.)
on behalf of Their Electrical Utility)
Subsidiaries, Duke Energy Carolinas,)
LLC and Progress Energy Carolinas,)
Inc. to Engage in a Business)
Combination Transaction)

**ADDITIONAL DIRECT
TESTIMONY OF
ALEXANDER J. WEINTRAUB**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND POSITION.**

2 A. My name is Alexander (Sasha) J. Weintraub and my business address is 100
3 East Davie Street, Raleigh, North Carolina. My position is Vice President-
4 Fuels and Power Optimization for Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. (“PEC”
5 or “Company”).

6 **Q. ARE YOU THE SAME SASHA WEINTRAUB THAT PREVIOUSLY**
7 **SUBMITTED TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

8 A. Yes. I submitted direct, supplemental direct and rebuttal testimony and
9 exhibits in this proceeding on September 14, 2011, November 10, 2011 and
10 November 30, 2011 respectively.

11 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR ADDITIONAL DIRECT**
12 **TESTIMONY?**

1 A. The purpose of my additional direct testimony is to: 1) explain the wholesale
2 market power mitigation proposal (“Revised Mitigation Proposal”) filed by
3 Duke Energy Corporation and Progress Energy Corporation (“the
4 Applicants”) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) on
5 March 26, 2012; 2) explain the Supplemental Agreement and Stipulation of
6 Settlement entered into by the North Carolina Public Staff and the
7 Applicants that clarify and modify the Agreement and Stipulation of
8 Settlement entered in to by the Public Staff and the Applicants filed with the
9 North Carolina Utilities Commission on September 2, 2011; 3) re-affirm
10 Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (“DEC”) and Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc.
11 (“PEC”) (collectively “the Utilities”) commitment to provide their retail and
12 native load firm wholesale customers \$650 million in system savings
13 (provided the FERC and the North Carolina Utilities Commission approve
14 the Joint Dispatch Agreement (“JDA”) and the merger); and 4) explain the
15 derivation of the total South Carolina merger savings calculated by the
16 Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”).

17 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE AND EXPLAIN THE MARKET POWER**
18 **MITIGATION PROPOSAL FILED BY THE APPLICANTS WITH**
19 **THE FERC ON MARCH 26, 2012.**

1 A. On March 26, 2012, the Applicants filed a Revised Mitigation Proposal with
2 the FERC pursuant to an order issued by the FERC on December 14, 2011.
3 The December 14, 2011 FERC Order rejected a previous market power
4 mitigation proposal filed by the Applicants and allowed the Applicants to
5 file a revised mitigation proposal. The Revised Mitigation Proposal has two
6 elements: an interim mitigation mechanism that involves the sale of capacity
7 and energy to third party wholesale market participants; and a permanent
8 mitigation proposal that involves the construction of new transmission
9 facilities. As proposed, the interim mitigation sales mechanism will
10 terminate once all of the new transmission facilities have been constructed
11 and placed into service.

12 **Q. PLEASE FURTHER DESCRIBE THE INTERIM MITIGATION**
13 **SALES MECHANISM.**

14 A. In recognition of the fact that until the permanent transmission expansion
15 projects I describe below are placed in service, the FERC's market power
16 concerns will continue, the Applicants propose to implement an interim
17 mitigation measure through firm sales of capacity and energy. The
18 Applicants have entered into firm power sales agreements ("PSAs") with
19 Cargill, EDF, and Morgan Stanley. The salient provisions of these PSAs are
20 as follows:

1 Energy will be sold on a firm basis in all hours of those seasons when
2 mitigation is required (summer and winter for DEC, summer for PEC). The
3 amounts sold in on-peak and off-peak periods will be sufficient to fully
4 mitigate the market power screen failures. These amounts are as follows:

5 In the DEC Balancing Authority Area (“BAA”):

6 Summer Peak – 150 MW.

7 Summer Off-Peak – 300 MW.

8 Winter Peak – 25 MW

9 Winter Off-Peak – 225 MW

10 In the PEC East BAA

11 Summer Peak – 325 MW

12 Summer Off-Peak – 500 MW

13 The sales will be divided among the purchasers as follows:

14 Cargill – all of the energy and capacity sold in the DEC BAA, and 100 MW
15 in the Summer Peak and 100 MW in the Summer Off-Peak Periods for the
16 PEC East BAA

17 EDF - 100 MW in the Summer Peak and 100 MW in the Summer Off-Peak
18 Periods for the PEC East BAA

1 Morgan Stanley – 125 MW in the Summer Peak and 300 MW in the
2 Summer Off-Peak Periods for the PEC East BAA

3 The energy will be sold on a “Firm LD basis”, *i.e.* the purchaser must take
4 the full contract amount in all hours, subject to interruption only on *force*
5 *majeure* grounds, which are specified in the PSAs.

6 The energy will be sold at a specified price, based on a fixed heat rate
7 and the natural gas price reported in *Platts Gas Daily* for Transco Zone 5.
8 The heat rates will be differentiated by on-peak and off-peak periods. The
9 heat rates are as follows:

10 Summer Peak – 10.0 MMBtu/MWh.

11 Summer Off-Peak – 7.0 MMBtu/MWh.

12 Winter Peak – 8.95 MMBtu/MWh.

13 Winter Off-Peak – 7.0 MMBtu/MWh.

14 The capacity prices were negotiated between the Applicants and the
15 purchasers. There are no restrictions on the use of energy by the purchasers
16 after it is purchased. Any interruption of deliveries of energy by DEC or
17 PEC will result in the payment of liquidated damages if the contract price of
18 power to be sold is below the market unless that interruption is excused on
19 *force majeure* grounds.

1 Sales under the PSAs will commence at the beginning of the first day
2 after the merger is closed. The term of each of PEC's PSAs will extend
3 through August 31, 2014. The term of DEC's PSA will extend through
4 February 28, 2015. These dates ensure that the interim mitigation will be in
5 place until the transmission expansion projects are expected to be completed.

6 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PERMANENT TRANSMISSION**
7 **MITIGATION PROPOSAL.**

8 A. The Applicants' permanent mitigation proposal consists of the construction
9 of seven transmission expansion projects in order to increase transmission
10 import capability into the PEC East and DEC BAAs. The projects proposed
11 by the Applicants provide permanent structural mitigation of the FERC's
12 market power concerns. Set forth and summarized in the following table are
13 the proposed transmission expansion projects, their projected cost and in-
14 service dates.

Project	BAA	Estimated Cost	Estimated Time
Antioch 500/230 kV - Replace two existing transformers with larger capacity transformers.	DEC	\$50 million	3 years
Lilesville-Rockingham 230 kV – Construct new third line.	PEC-East	\$15.7 million	2 years
Roxboro-E Danville 230 tie –add a series reactor to one Roxboro-E Danville 230 kV line and revise operating procedures.	PEC-East	\$6.6 million	2 years
Reconductor Kinston Dupont – Wommack 230 kV Line 6-1590 MCM	PEC-East	\$18 million	2 years
Person - (DVP) Halifax 230 kV Line, uprate CT Ratio to 3000 amps at Person terminal end and reconductor DVP portion (20.04 Miles) of line.	PEC-East	\$16 million	2.5 years
Wake – Carson 500 kV Line, replace existing wave traps with 4000 amp wave traps at both terminals and rework protective relaying	PEC-East	\$1.5 million	< 2 years
Durham - E. Durham 230 kV line, Uprate CT Ratio to 3000 amps	PEC-East	\$0.5 million	< 2 years

1 In addition to these seven projects, the Applicants are accelerating the in-
2 service date of PEC's already-planned Greenville – Kinston Dupont 230 kV
3 Line from 2017 to 2015.

1 These transmission expansion projects completely mitigate all market
2 power issues in the DEC BAA. They also completely mitigate all market
3 power issues in the PEC East BAA except for the Summer Off-Peak in the
4 Base Case. In this one period, a very small market power screen failure will
5 still exist, which does not represent a competitive concern. However, if the
6 FERC still finds the minor screen failure an issue, the Applicants have
7 proposed to augment the Revised Mitigation Proposal with a "stub"
8 mitigation proposal (the "stub mitigation proposal") – namely a set-aside of
9 a portion of the expanded transmission capacity from the DEC BAA to the
10 PEC East BAA. Under this proposal, only unaffiliated third parties would
11 be permitted to reserve the set-aside amount on a firm basis. This set-aside
12 would ensure that the Applicants would not have access to the set-aside
13 amount of transmission capacity into the PEC East BAA from the Duke
14 BAA on a firm basis and thereby would fully mitigate the one small screen
15 failure remaining after the transmission projects are completed.

16 **Q. ARE THERE ANY OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE REVISED**
17 **MITIGATION PROPOSAL?**

18 A. Yes. The Applicants also proposed that three aspects of the Revised
19 Mitigation Proposal be subject to monitoring by Potomac Economics as an
20 independent monitor. First, Potomac Economics will monitor the PSAs to

1 ensure they remain in effect until the transmission expansion projects are
2 complete. If any of the PSAs terminate prior to completion of the
3 transmission projects, Potomac Economics will monitor whether such PSA
4 is replaced with a new PSA under materially the same terms and conditions.
5 Second, Potomac Economics will monitor the extent to which the Applicants
6 are pursuing the transmission expansion projects within the scope and time
7 frame projected and will report to the FERC when the projects have been
8 completed and placed in service. Third, if the FERC requires PEC or DEC
9 to forego use of some of the enhanced transmission capability created by
10 these projects via the stub mitigation proposal, Potomac Economics will
11 monitor the Applicants' compliance with such a transmission use limitation.

12 **Q. TURNING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT AND**
13 **STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT ENTERED INTO BY THE**
14 **APPLICANTS AND THE NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC STAFF AND**
15 **FILED WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**
16 **ON MAY 8, 2012, PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RETAIL HOLD**
17 **HARMLESS PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE AGREEMENT**
18 **ASSOCIATED WITH THE REVISED MITIGATION PROPOSAL.**

19 **A.** I will first address the interim mitigation sales mechanism. The Supplemental
20 Agreement provides that the costs of the Mitigation Capacity will be

1 allocated to the Utilities' wholesale jurisdiction, in particular the actual
2 mitigation sales. These costs will be calculated based upon the revenue
3 requirement associated with a utility-specific proxy for the capacity costs of
4 the generating facilities expected to be on the margin during the months and
5 hours the interim mitigation sales will be made, which are assumed to be
6 between July 1, 2012 through May 31, 2015.

7 DEC's and PEC's North Carolina retail customers will immediately
8 benefit from the allocation of capacity costs to these interim sales because
9 the Supplemental Agreement requires DEC and PEC to each develop a
10 decrement rider to their respective North Carolina retail rates that reflects the
11 Mitigation Capacity costs I just described, calculated as follows:

12 a) The Mitigation Capacity MWs under contract for each period
13 will be increased to reflect reserve margins contained in the
14 Utilities' 2011 filed Integrated Resource Plans.

15 b) The Mitigation Capacity MWs, including the associated reserve
16 margins, will be multiplied by the number of hours that the
17 capacity is contracted for and the hourly capacity cost per MW
18 based upon the agreed upon utility-specific proxy.

- 1 c) These capacity costs will include a rate of return on production
2 plant, step-up transformer facilities, general plant, and
3 associated rate base items. Additional costs to be included are
4 fixed O&M (which includes an appropriate allocation of
5 Administrative and General (“A&G”) costs, depreciation
6 expense, and general taxes).
- 7 d) These capacity costs will be allocated between and among
8 jurisdictions using the production plant allocation methodology
9 approved in DEC’s and PEC’s most recent general rate cases.
- 10 e) The decrement will be determined by dividing each utility’s
11 Mitigation Capacity total projected North Carolina retail
12 capacity costs for July 1, 2012, through May 31, 2015, by each
13 utility’s projected North Carolina retail kilowatt-hour sales for
14 the same period.

15 The Utilities must file the decrement riders for approval with the
16 North Carolina Utilities Commission within 30 days after the merger closes.
17 The decrement riders will be fixed and remain in effect and without any
18 future true-ups until the interim mitigation sales are terminated plus the
19 number of days between when the sales began and the time the decrement
20 riders became effective. However, if a portion of the interim sales terminate

1 due to the completion of the permanent mitigation, the riders will be reduced
2 in proportion to the terminated sales. Appropriate decrement riders will
3 continue in effect until such time as the Utilities are relieved of their
4 respective obligations to make the interim mitigation sales.

5 The interim mitigation sales will be deemed to have been made using
6 the Utilities' highest energy costs assigned to these type sales. The
7 Supplemental Agreement prohibits the Utilities from seeking to recover
8 from their North Carolina retail customers any of the non-fuel variable
9 operating and maintenance costs associated with the interim mitigation sales.
10 In addition, the Utilities cannot seek to recover from their North Carolina
11 retail customers any revenue shortfalls resulting from, or any costs
12 associated with, the interim mitigation sales, including but not limited to any
13 negative capacity payments, any revenue deficiency resulting from energy
14 revenues being less than the associated costs and any payment of liquidated
15 damages.

16 Turning to the hold harmless provisions of the North Carolina
17 Supplemental Agreement associated with the permanent transmission
18 mitigation mechanism, DEC and PEC agreed they will not assign costs
19 associated with permanent transmission mitigation projects into their
20 wholesale transmission rates until the later of the expiration of the five-year

1 FERC hold harmless period or such time as the Utilities have received
2 regulatory approval to assign those costs to their retail native loads, effective
3 on the date they are first permitted to begin recovering those costs.

4 The Utilities further agreed that they will only seek recovery of the
5 costs associated with the permanent transmission mitigation projects in their
6 North Carolina retail rates upon the expiration of five (5) years following the
7 close of the merger, and any such request shall include a showing that the
8 requesting utility intends to pursue recovery from its wholesale customers
9 effective on the date it is permitted to begin recovery of such costs in its
10 North Carolina retail rates. The Utilities further agreed to support the cost
11 recovery request with evidence sufficient to show that, absent the merger
12 and the resulting mitigation requirement, (i) the project is needed to provide
13 adequate and reliable retail service, and (ii) at the time the request is made,
14 the construction of the project and the incurrence of the associated costs
15 would have been reasonable and prudent. The Utilities may seek inclusion
16 of only the net depreciated cost of the permanent transmission mitigation
17 projects at the time of the request, and may not request any deferral of any
18 costs associated with the projects for ratemaking purposes.

19 The North Carolina Supplemental Agreement and Stipulation of
20 Settlement further provides that if subsequent to the inclusion of the costs

1 associated with a permanent transmission mitigation project in North
2 Carolina retail rates, DEC or PEC is not successful in incorporating the
3 correct jurisdictional share of those costs into the cost-based formula rate
4 prescribed by its FERC approved Open Access Transmission Tariffs and,
5 therefore, is not allowed to recover all of such costs from its wholesale or
6 firm transmission-only customers, then the corresponding proportionate
7 share of such costs that have been approved for inclusion in retail rates will
8 be removed and refunds made accordingly. For example, if 20% of the costs
9 allocated to wholesale are not allowed in to DEC's or PEC's OATT rates,
10 then 20% of the portion allocated to retail will be excluded and refunded to
11 DEC's or PEC's North Carolina retail customers.

12 Because PEC is simply accelerating the construction of the
13 Greenville-Kinston-DuPont transmission line project, the Supplemental
14 Agreement provides that this project is not subject to the cost recovery
15 limitations I just described. Rather, PEC may seek to include the costs
16 associated with this line in its North Carolina retail rates any time after the
17 line is placed in service, in accordance with normal ratemaking practice
18 requirements.

19 Finally, the North Carolina Supplemental Agreement provides that the
20 Utilities cannot recover from their North Carolina retail ratepayers any costs

1 associated with running their generating systems on a non-economic basis as
2 a result of their commitment in the Revised Mitigation Proposal filed with
3 the FERC to run the Roxboro and Mayo units at full output when necessary
4 to push back against AEP/PJM power flows into PEC in order to achieve
5 improvement in firm import capability from PJM into PEC-East. PEC,
6 through special operating procedures¹ maintained at its Energy Control
7 Center (“ECC”), will (a) document each instance in which any of the
8 Roxboro and Mayo units operate out of merit dispatch order and (b) specify
9 each instance during which the approved procedure for implementing the
10 this commitment was used. For each use of the procedure, PEC must
11 include the following information in its monthly fuel report:

- 12 • the date, exact times, and duration;
- 13 • a detailed description of the order of dispatch under the joint
14 dispatch agreement that would have occurred if the procedure
15 had not been used;
- 16 • the incremental difference in fuel, fuel-related, and variable
17 O&M costs, on a joint dispatch basis; and

¹ The ECC will monitor the AEP Danville/East Danville transmission line that interconnects with PEC’s system north of the Roxboro and Mayo plants, and, if line-overloading issues associated with power flows from PJM into PEC are found at a time that the Roxboro and Mayo units are not operating at full power output, the ECC will direct both the Roxboro and Mayo plants to increase their output to full power, per the special operating procedures for this type of situation.

- the effect on joint dispatch savings to be split between DEC and PEC.

Q. ARE THESE THE SAME HOLD HARMLESS COMMITMENTS DESCRIBED IN DEC'S AND PEC'S COMMITMENT LETTER FILED WITH THE COMMISSION ON MAY 16, 2012?

A. Yes. In the May 16, 2012 letter DEC and PEC explained that they had made these same hold harmless commitments to the Office of Regulatory Staff for the benefit of DEC's and PEC's South Carolina retail customers. The letter stated that the total system costs of Mitigation Capacity to be allocated away from South Carolina retail and reflected in the proposed decrement rider are \$10,316,657 for DEC and \$2,283,121 for PEC. Just as in North Carolina these capacity costs will be allocated between and among jurisdictions using the production plant allocation methodology approved in DEC's and PEC's most recent general rate cases. For DEC and PEC, the current Commission-approved methodology is the Summer CP. The actual proposed decrement riders are shown in Appendix A to the May 16, 2012 commitment letter filed with the Commission.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE AND EXPLAIN THE CLARIFICATIONS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA SEPTEMBER 2, 2012 AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT THAT ARE ADDRESSED IN

1 **THE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION OF**
2 **SETTLEMENT.**

3 A. The first clarification concerns how off-system purchases and sales are to be
4 treated in determining savings realized by PEC and DEC from the joint
5 dispatch of their generation facilities. As explained by Dr. Kalt in his direct
6 testimony, the \$364 million in joint dispatch agreement (“JDA”) savings are
7 based upon the analysis conducted by and the models used by Compass
8 Lexecon, which did not take into account off-system sales and purchases.
9 Because purchases by the stand-alone utilities for purposes of splitting the
10 joint dispatch savings cannot be determined with any reasonable degree of
11 accuracy, the proposed treatment of purchases in the JDA is the assignment
12 of a share of actual joint dispatch purchases (i.e., megawatt hours and costs)
13 to DEC and PEC on a stand-alone basis. Therefore, in order to properly
14 account for the benefits of joint dispatch, for purposes of calculating the
15 JDA savings portion of the \$650 million guarantee, off-system sales and
16 purchases will be excluded from the calculation (in both the joint dispatch
17 generation stack and the stand alone generation stacks). Actual savings that
18 result from purchases and the displacement of higher cost generation that
19 results from such purchases will flow through DEC’s and PEC’s annual fuel

1 charge adjustment proceedings in the same manner such lower costs/savings
2 have been treated pre-merger.

3 The second clarification of the North Carolina September 2, 2011
4 Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement concerns the increased
5 consumption of reagents by DEC resulting from its burning of non-
6 traditional coals due to greater use of coal blending. Fuel blending generally
7 refers to the exercise of fuel flexibility in electricity generation and involves
8 the burning of coals with higher sulfur and ash contents. Such blending will
9 result in the consumption of greater amounts of reagents than would be the
10 case if the higher sulfur and ash content coals were not burned. The
11 Supplemental Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement clarifies that the
12 calculation of the guaranteed fuel and fuel-related costs system savings of
13 \$650 million will not be reduced by the increased reagent costs resulting
14 from the increased consumption of reagents associated with fuel blending.
15 The recovery of these increased reagent costs, if otherwise reasonable and
16 prudently incurred, will be allowed in DEC's annual fuel charge
17 proceedings.

18 Finally, Appendix B of the North Carolina Supplemental Agreement
19 and Stipulation of Settlement clarifies section 2.(d)(ii) of the September 2,
20 2011 Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement which addresses how savings

1 realized by DEC from greater use of coal blending following the merger are
2 to be calculated for purpose of the \$650 million system savings guarantee.

3 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE AND EXPLAIN THE MODIFICATIONS TO**
4 **THE NORTH CAROLINA SEPTEMBER AGREEMENT AND**
5 **STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT ADDRESSED IN THE**
6 **SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION OF**
7 **SETTLEMENT.**

8 A. Section 12 of the September 2, 2011 Agreement and Stipulation of
9 Settlement provides that with respect to capital costs incurred by PEC and
10 DEC to achieve merger savings, PEC and DEC may only seek to include
11 these costs in rates in their first rate cases following the close of the merger
12 and that rate case must be filed prior to December 31, 2013. Section 12
13 further provides that PEC and DEC may request recovery of employee
14 severance costs in their first rate cases following the close of the merger,
15 provided the rate cases are filed prior to December 31, 2013.

16 Both PEC and DEC intend to file general rate cases in 2012. Due to
17 the procedural posture of the Applicants' merger application with the FERC,
18 the close of the merger did not occur January 1, 2012 as the Applicants
19 expected. Rather, the closing will occur in June or July, 2012, assuming all
20 regulatory approvals are received in a timely manner. As a result, neither

1 PEC nor DEC will have incurred any capital costs to achieve merger savings
2 at the time they file their 2012 rate cases. In recognition of this changed
3 circumstance the Applicants and the Public Staff agreed that Section 12 of
4 the September 2, 2011 Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement should be
5 revised to allow PEC and DEC to seek recovery of any and all capital costs
6 incurred to generate merger savings provided such costs are incurred within
7 three years of the closing of the merger, except for capital costs to achieve
8 fuel blending savings incurred by DEC. The Supplemental Agreement
9 provides that there should not be any time limitation regarding DEC seeking
10 recovery of costs to achieve coal blending savings. Additionally, the
11 standard for recovery was changed to allow PEC and DEC to recover all
12 capital costs incurred to generate merger savings (including fuel blending
13 savings) in accordance with normal ratemaking practices. In consideration
14 for the Public Staff agreeing to this modification PEC and DEC agreed to
15 waive their right to seek recovery of employee severance costs.

16 Finally, the Supplemental Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement
17 modifies the September 2, 2011 Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement to
18 reflect the dramatic change in natural gas prices and the impact of this
19 change on PEC's and DEC's opportunity to achieve fuel savings from coal
20 blending. Exhibit No. 5 to the Applicants' Merger Application indicates

1 that savings of \$183.9 million during the first five years following the close
2 of the merger were expected to be achieved through coal blending. The
3 dramatic change in natural gas prices since the beginning of 2012 has
4 materially reduced the amount of coal being consumed by PEC and DEC.
5 Current forecasts of natural gas prices do not indicate any material change in
6 the relative prices of coal and natural gas in the near term. Therefore, over
7 the next several years, PEC's and DEC's coal consumption is expected to
8 remain at the current relatively low levels. This reduced use of coal
9 materially impacts DEC's forecasted ability to achieve the \$183.9 million in
10 coal blending savings during the first five years after the merger. As a
11 result, the Public Staff and the Applicants agreed in the Supplemental
12 Agreement and Stipulation of Settlement that if PEC and DEC can
13 demonstrate that they are unable to achieve the \$650 million of system fuel
14 savings during the first five years following the close of the merger because
15 the change in natural gas prices has significantly reduced their consumption
16 of coal at the three generating plants designated for coal blending in Exhibit
17 5 and therefore impaired the Applicants' ability to achieve the forecasted
18 coal blending savings, the time period allowed for PEC and DEC to achieve
19 the \$650 million of system savings will be extended eighteen months. The
20 South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff, which is a party to the North

1 Carolina proceeding, has filed a letter with the North Carolina Utilities
2 Commission generally supporting the Supplemental Agreement and
3 Stipulation of Settlement. In that letter, the ORS supported the eighteen
4 month extension if needed because of the impact of low natural gas prices on
5 coal consumption.

6 **Q. DURING THE HEARING BEFORE THIS COMMISSION ON**
7 **DECEMBER 12, 2012, DEC AND PEC COMMITTED TO PROVIDE**
8 **THEIR RETAIL AND NATIVE LOAD FIRM WHOLESALE**
9 **CUSTOMERS \$650 MILLION IN FUEL SAVINGS DURING THE**
10 **FIRST FIVE YEARS FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF THE MERGER**
11 **AS A CONDITION OF THE COMMISSION APPROVING THE JDA.**
12 **ARE DEC AND PEC SEEKING TO REVISE THIS COMMITMENT**
13 **TO ALLOW FOR AN ADDITIONAL EIGHTEEN MONTHS TO**
14 **ACHIEVE THIS LEVEL OF SAVINGS AS AGREED TO BY THE**
15 **PUBLIC STAFF IN THE NORTH CAROLINA SUPPLEMENTAL**
16 **AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT?**

17 A. PEC and DEC are still committed to using their best efforts to provide their
18 South Carolina retail customers their pro rata share of \$650 million in
19 system fuel savings during the first five years following the closing of the
20 merger: however, given certain changes that have occurred in the fuels

1 market since the hearing, I must provide the Commission additional
2 information regarding the commitment.

3 When DEC and PEC made the savings commitment to the
4 Commission during the hearing in December we did not discuss in detail the
5 assumptions underlying the forecasted savings upon which the commitment
6 was based. One of the key assumptions supporting the savings forecast was
7 that the relative prices of natural gas and coal would not materially change.
8 This was a key assumption because \$184 million of the \$650 million of
9 savings was based upon DEC burning more non-traditional coal at its
10 Marshall, Belews Creek and Allen coal plants as a part of a coal blending
11 initiative.

12 At the time of the hearing, no one foresaw the dramatic decrease in
13 natural gas prices that has occurred in 2012 or that natural gas prices would
14 be forecasted to remain at very low levels for the next several years. This
15 reduction in natural gas prices has resulted in natural gas fired generation
16 being less expensive than coal fired generation. If this situation persists then
17 following the merger DEC will not be burning enough coal at its Marshall,
18 Belews Creek, and Allen plants to achieve the forecasted savings of \$184
19 million. This is not a bad turn of events because DEC's and PEC's South
20 Carolina customers are benefitting and will benefit from these low natural

1 gas prices. The problem, if there is one, is the changes in the fuel markets
2 are reducing the savings DEC can achieve from coal blending. Either way
3 DEC's and PEC's customers realize significant savings, they will just be
4 achieved in a manner not originally contemplated. Thus, consistent with the
5 North Carolina Supplemental Agreement, DEC and PEC need an additional
6 eighteen months to achieve the \$650 million in system savings if DEC is
7 unable to burn as much coal as was originally forecasted. I want to
8 emphasize that the companies have now agreed not to recover from retail
9 ratepayers an estimated \$226,000,000 in merger-related severance costs.
10 That provision was also not part of the settlement in December 2011 but was
11 agreed to as a part of the negotiation that led to the eighteen month
12 extension. We ask this Commission to accept our commitment to provide a
13 pro rata share of those same benefits to South Carolina customers as a basis
14 for approval of the Joint Dispatch Agreement.

15 **Q. HAVE THE UTILITIES REVIEWED THE “MERGER SAVINGS**
16 **AND BENEFITS” CHART PUBLISHED BY THE ORS ON THEIR**
17 **WEBSITE?**

18 A. Yes, we are familiar with this chart. A copy of this chart is attached to my
19 testimony as Attachment A.

20 **Q. WOULD YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THE CHART?**

1 A. Yes. The chart seeks to succinctly display the merger savings and benefits
2 on both a total system and South Carolina jurisdictional basis, when
3 appropriate. Under the “Merger Savings and Benefits” heading, the first line
4 shows the \$650 million of guaranteed fuel savings. Regarding the second
5 line, in the ORS’s May 16, 2012 filing in the North Carolina Utilities
6 Commission’s merger docket, the ORS correctly indicated that DEC and
7 PEC agreed to make annual community support and charitable contributions
8 in South Carolina for four years following the close of the merger. The
9 annual contributions would be based on the Utilities’ average contributions
10 over the time period 2006-2010. The annual amount for DEC is \$1,866,862
11 and for PEC the annual amount is \$788,000 for an annual total of
12 \$2,654,862.

13 The third line is also taken from the ORS’ May 16, 2012 filing in the
14 North Carolina Utilities Commission merger docket. In that filing the ORS
15 correctly represented that DEC and PEC have committed to make a
16 contribution in the amount of \$3.75 million in the first year following the
17 close of the merger. This contribution is to support workforce development
18 and low income energy assistance in DEC’s and PEC’s South Carolina
19 service territories. The contribution will be allocated in proportion to the
20 number of South Carolina customers served by each utility.

1 Under the heading “Additional Savings and Benefits” the first line
2 represents the total amount of capacity costs allocated away from retail
3 customers to the interim mitigation sales over the 35 months the sales are
4 expected to occur. Again, these dollars are presented on both a total system
5 and South Carolina retail basis.

6 The second line captures the value of the Utilities’ commitment to not
7 seek recovery of the employee severance costs they will incur in reducing
8 their workforces to achieve merger savings. These costs are forecasted to be
9 \$226,000,000 on a system basis and \$44,000,000 on a South Carolina retail
10 basis. The lines labeled “Total” are simply the sums of the various columns
11 of dollars.

12 Finally, under the heading “Savings for Residential Customers Using
13 1000 kWhs”, the ORS has simply taken the South Carolina jurisdictional
14 portion of the \$650 million of fuel savings (\$25.4 million on an annual
15 basis) and the annual impact of the \$12.6 million associated with the
16 Mitigation Capacity allocation and converted them to a dollar savings per
17 1000 kwh for both DEC and PEC.

18 **Q. ARE DEC AND PEC RE-AFFIRMING THEIR COMMITMENT AND**
19 **GUARANTEE CONTAINED IN THEIR DECEMBER 13, 2011**
20 **LETTER FILED WITH THE COMMISSION IN THIS SAME**

1 **DOCKET TO PROVIDE THEIR RETAIL SOUTH CAROLINA**
2 **CUSTOMERS PRO RATA BENEFITS EQUIVALENT TO THOSE**
3 **APPROVED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES**
4 **COMMISSION IN ITS ORDER RULING UPON DUKE’S AND**
5 **PROGRESS’ MERGER APPLICATION.**

6 A. Yes. Basically, the savings reflected in the ORS’ Merger Savings and
7 Benefits chart represent South Carolina’s pro rata share of these expected
8 benefits.

9 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY?**

10 A. Yes.

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2011-158-E

In the Matter of)
)
Application of Duke Energy)
Corporation and Progress Energy, Inc.)
on behalf of Their Electrical Utility)
Subsidiaries, Duke Energy Carolinas,)
LLC and Progress Energy Carolinas,)
Inc. to Engage in a Business)
Combination Transaction)

**ADDITIONAL DIRECT
TESTIMONY OF
ALEXANDER J. WEINTRAUB**

ATTACHMENT A

**Merger Savings and Benefits
Office of Regulatory Staff Chart**

Merger Savings and Benefits

	<u>System</u>	<u>South Carolina</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Fuel Savings	\$ 650,000,000	\$ 127,000,000	\$25.4 million annually for 5 years ¹ Estimated Allocation (19.52%)
Community Support	-	\$ 7,500,000	\$1.86 million annually for 4 years
Charitable Contributions	-	\$ 3,150,000	\$788,000 annually for 4 years
Workforce Development & Low Income Energy Assistance	-	\$ 3,750,000	\$3.75 million for 1 year
TOTAL Savings and Benefits	\$ 650,000,000	\$ 141,400,000	

Additional Savings and Benefits

	<u>System</u>	<u>South Carolina</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Decrement Rider for Capacity Sales	\$ 64,600,000	\$ 12,600,000	\$12.6 million spread over 35 months ²
Protection Provision	\$ 226,000,000	\$ 44,000,000	Estimated Allocation (19.52%)
TOTAL Additional Savings and Benefits	\$ 290,600,000	\$ 56,600,000	

Overall Savings and Benefits to SC Ratepayers	\$ 198,000,000
------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------

Savings for Residential Customers using 1,000 kWh:

<u>Duke Energy Carolinas:</u>		<u>Progress Energy Carolinas</u>	
¹ Fuel Savings:	\$0.92	¹ Fuel Savings:	\$0.92
² Decrement Rider:	<u>\$0.16</u>	² Decrement Rider:	<u>\$0.12</u>
TOTAL	\$1.08	TOTAL	\$1.04

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

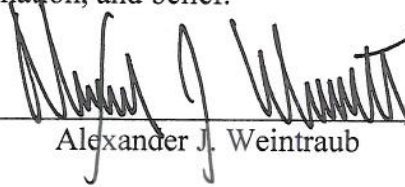
DOCKET NO. 2011-158-E

In the Matter of

Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and)
Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. to Engage in a)
Business Combination Transaction)


VERIFICATION AND
SIGNATURE

PERSONALLY APPEARED before me, Alexander J. Weintraub (Sasha) who, after first being duly sworn, said that he is Vice President, Fuels and Power Optimization of Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc., and as such is authorized to make this verification; that he has read the foregoing Additional Direct Testimony and knows the contents thereof; and that the same are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief.



Alexander J. Weintraub

Sworn to and subscribed before me,
this the 4th day of June, 2012.



Notary Public

Expiration Date: 10-3-2014

STAREG2565



**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2011-158-E

In the Matter of)
)
Application of Duke Energy)
Corporation and Progress Energy, Inc.)
on behalf of Their Electrical Utility)
Subsidiaries, Duke Energy Carolinas,)
LLC and Progress Energy Carolinas,)
Inc. to Engage in a Business)
Combination Transaction)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that I, Toni C. Hawkins, a paralegal with the law firm of Robinson, McFadden & Moore, P.C., have this day caused to be served upon the person(s) named below the **Additional Direct Testimony of Alexander J. Weintraub on behalf of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc.** in the foregoing matter by email and/or by placing a copy of same in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, in envelopes addressed as follows:

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Dated at Columbia, South Carolina this 4th day of June, 2012.


Toni C. Hawkins