THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE STATUS REPORT FOR 2015 OF INSPIRE ENERGY HOLDINGS, LLC.

CASE NO. 16-816-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on May 17, 2017

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the 2015 renewable portfolio standard compliance status report of Inspire Energy Holdings, LLC.

II. DISCUSSION

A. Applicable Law

- {¶ 2} Inspire Energy Holdings, LLC (Inspire) is an electric services company as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(9) and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- [¶ 3] R.C. 4928.64(B)(2) establishes benchmarks for electric services companies to acquire a portion of their electricity supply for retail customers in Ohio from renewable energy resources. R.C. 4928.645 provides that an electric utility or electric services company may use renewable energy credits (RECs) and solar energy credits (SRECs) to meet its respective renewable energy and solar benchmarks. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-01(BB) defines a REC as the environmental attributes associated with one megawatt hour (MWH) of electricity generated by a renewable energy resource, except for electricity generated by facilities as described in Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-04(E).
- {¶ 4} Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-05(A) requires each electric services company to annually file by April 15 a renewable portfolio standard compliance status report (RPS report), unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. The RPS report must analyze

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all activities the company undertook in the previous year in order to demonstrate how pertinent alternative energy portfolio benchmarks have been met. Staff then conducts an annual compliance review of the company's filing and the records of the applicable attribute tracking system to ensure that RECs were sourced from generating facilities certified by the Commission and were appropriately associated with electricity generated for the compliance period.

B. Procedural History

- {¶ 5} On April 14, 2016, Inspire filed its 2015 RPS report. Inspire stated that did not have any Ohio retail electric sales in 2015 and that, consequently, it did not have any renewable compliance obligations for 2015.
- [¶6] On September 13, 2016, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for Inspire's RPS report. Staff reports that Inspire was an electric services company in the state of Ohio and, therefore, had an RPS filing obligation for 2015. Staff verified that Inspire had no Ohio retail electric sales in 2015 and, consequently, Inspire had no RPS compliance obligation in 2015. Further, Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, Inspire initiate the transfer of the appropriate RECs and SRECs to its attribute tracking system reserve subaccount between March 1 and April 15 so as to precede the filing of its annual RPS report with the Commission.

C. Conclusion

{¶ 7} Upon review of Inspire's 2015 RPS report and the records of these proceedings, we adopt Staff's recommendations. Further, Inspire is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

III. ORDER

- $\{\P 8\}$ It is, therefore,
- {¶ 9} ORDERED, That Inspire's 2015 RPS report be accepted as filed, as Inspire has met its RPS filing obligation for 2015. It is, further,
- **{¶ 10}** ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Aşim Z. Haque, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Thomas W. Johnson

Daniel R. Conway

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Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary