## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE STATUS REPORT FOR 2015 OF CENSTAR ENERGY CORP.

**CASE NO. 16-825-EL-ACP** 

## FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on October 20, 2017

## I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the 2015 renewable portfolio standard compliance status report of CenStar Energy Corp.

#### II. DISCUSSION

# A. Applicable Law

- {¶ 2} CenStar Energy Corp. (CenStar) 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 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

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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 15, 2016, CenStar filed its 2015 RPS report. CenStar proposes to use a baseline of 13,145 MWH, which it indicated was an average of its actual Ohio retail electric sales for 2013 and 2014; CenStar indicated it had no Ohio retail electric sales in 2012. CenStar further reported that it satisfied its 2015 compliance obligations.
- {¶6} On November 28, 2016, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for CenStar's RPS report. Staff reports that CenStar is an electric services company in the state of Ohio and, therefore, had an RPS obligation for 2015. Staff reviewed CenStar's attribute tracking system account record to verify compliance, and determined that CenStar satisfied its 2015 RPS compliance obligations. Staff noted that CenStar retired more RECs and SRECs in 2014 than was necessary to satisfy its 2014 compliance obligations, but did not apply any of this excess to its 2015 compliance obligations. Staff recommends that CenStar be directed to apply the excess retirement of RECs and SRECs to its 2016 compliance obligations. Further, Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, CenStar 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. Commission Conclusion

{¶ 7} Upon review of CenStar's 2015 RPS report and the records of these proceedings, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that CenStar's 2015 proposed compliance baseline is reasonable, and that CenStar has met its compliance obligations for 2015. Further, CenStar is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

## III. ORDER

- $\{\P 8\}$  It is, therefore,
- $\P$  9 ORDERED, That CenStar's 2015 RPS report be accepted as filed, as CenStar has met its RPS compliance obligations for 2015. It is, further,
- $\{\P$  10 $\}$  ORDERED, That CenStar comply with Staff's recommendations adopted herein. It is, further,
- {¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Asim Z. Hague, Chairman

M. Beth Trombold

awrence K. Friedeman

Thomas W. Johnson

Daniel R. Conway

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Barcy F. McNeal

Secretary