

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE
PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE
STATUS REPORT FOR 2016 OF DUKE
ENERGY OHIO, INC.

CASE NO. 17-345-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on February 21, 2018

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission approves the 2016 renewable portfolio standard compliance status report of Duke Energy Ohio, Inc.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke) is an electric distribution utility as defined in R.C. 4928.01(A)(6) and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02 and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

{¶ 3} R.C. 4928.64(B)(2) establishes benchmarks for electric distribution utilities 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 distribution utility 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 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.

{¶ 5} On April 11, 2017, Duke filed its 2016 RPS report. Duke proposes to use a baseline of 5,061,733 MWH, which it indicated was its Ohio retail electric sales for 2016. Duke further reported that it satisfied its 2016 compliance obligations.

{¶ 6} On June 28, 2017, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for Duke's RPS report. Staff reports that Duke is an electric distribution utility in the state of Ohio, and thus had an RPS obligation for 2016. Staff reviewed Duke's attribute tracking system account record to verify compliance, and determined that Duke satisfied its 2016 RPS compliance obligations. Further, Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, Duke 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.

{¶ 7} Upon review of Duke's 2016 RPS report and the records of these proceedings, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that Duke's 2016 proposed compliance baseline is reasonable, and that Duke has met its compliance obligations for 2016. Further, Duke is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

III. ORDER

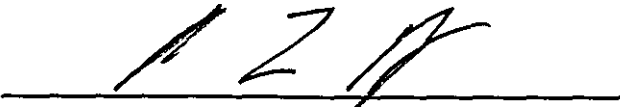
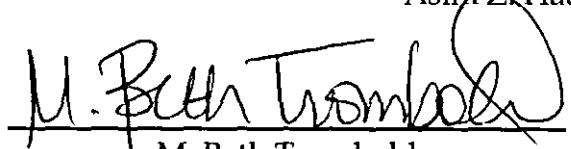
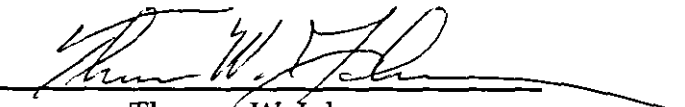
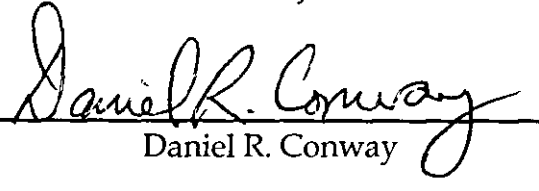
{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That Duke's 2016 RPS report be accepted as filed, as Duke has met its RPS compliance obligations for 2016. It is, further,

{¶ 10} ORDERED, That Duke comply with Staff's recommendations adopted herein. It is, further,

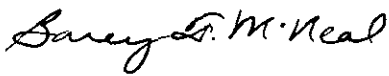
{¶ 11} ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO


Asim Z. Haque, Chairman
M. Beth Trombeld
Thomas W. Johnson
Lawrence K. Friedeman
Daniel R. Conway

JML/sc

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Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary