

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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

CASE No. 17-979-EL-ACP

FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on April 4, 2018

I. SUMMARY

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

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} CleanChoice Energy, Inc. (CleanChoice) 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 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 14, 2017, CleanChoice filed its 2016 RPS report. Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-40-03(B)(2)(a) establishes how the baseline shall be calculated in a situation in which an electric services company has not been continuously supplying Ohio retail electric customers during the preceding three calendar years, indicating that, in such cases, the baseline shall be computed as an average of annual sales data for all calendar years during the preceding three years in which the electric services company was serving retail customers. Indicating that it had zero Ohio retail electric sales in 2013, CleanChoice proposes a baseline of 1,296 MWH, which is the average of its annual Ohio retail electric sales for 2014 and 2015. CleanChoice reported that it satisfied its 2016 compliance obligations.

{¶ 6} On December 15, 2017, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for CleanChoice's RPS report. Staff reports that CleanChoice is an electric services company in the state of Ohio and, therefore, had an RPS obligation for 2016. Staff reviewed CleanChoice's attribute tracking system account record to verify compliance, and determined that CleanChoice satisfied its 2016 RPS compliance obligations. Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, CleanChoice 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 CleanChoice's 2016 RPS report and the record of this proceeding, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that CleanChoice's 2016 proposed compliance baseline is reasonable, and that CleanChoice has met its compliance obligations for 2016. Further, CleanChoice is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

III. ORDER

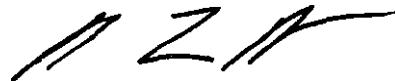
{¶ 8} It is, therefore,

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

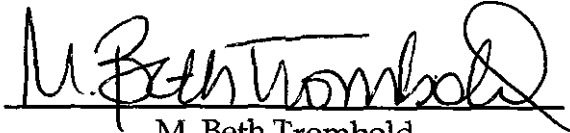
{¶ 10} ORDERED, That CleanChoice comply with Staff's recommendations adopted herein. It is, further,

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

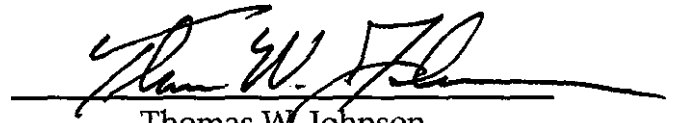
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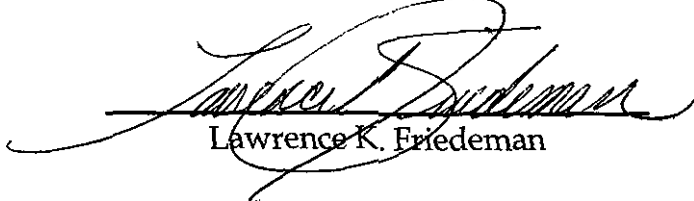
Asim Z. Haque, Chairman



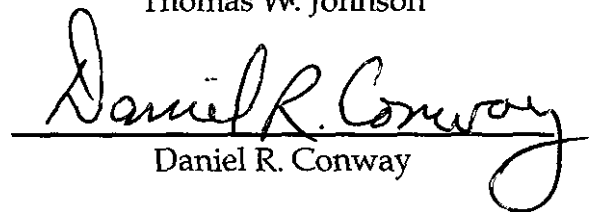
M. Beth Trombold



Thomas W. Johnson



Lawrence K. Friedeman



Daniel R. Conway

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Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary