## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARD COMPLIANCE STATUS REPORT FOR 2016 OF RENAISSANCE POWER & GAS, INC.

CASE NO. 17-1073-EL-ACP

## FINDING AND ORDER

Entered in the Journal on April 4, 2018

### I. SUMMARY

**{¶ 1}** The Commission finds Renaissance Power & Gas, Inc. has not satisfied its 2016 renewable portfolio standard (RPS) compliance obligations and that, therefore, an alternative compliance payment is warranted. The Commission directs Renaissance to remit to the Commission a payment, required under R.C. 4928.64, in the amount of \$1,046.25.

#### II. DISCUSSION

#### A. Applicable Law

 $\{\P 2\}$  Renaissance Power & Gas, Inc. (Renaissance or Company) 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.

# B. Procedural History

{¶ 5} On April 14, 2017, Renaissance filed its 2016 RPS report. Renaissance proposed a baseline of 610 MWH, which it asserted was its actual Ohio retail electric sales for 2016. Applying the statutory benchmarks to its proposed baseline, Renaissance calculated its 2016 compliance obligations to include 1 Solar MWH and 15 Non-Solar MWHs. Rather that retiring any renewable energy credits (RECs) and solar RECs (S-RECs) to satisfy its 2016 compliance obligations, Renaissance has proposed to pay an alternative compliance payment in the amount of \$1,046.25. Within its filing, Renaissance included an attestation that it would not seek to recover the alternative compliance payment from its customers.

**{¶ 6}** On December 20, 2017, Staff filed its Review and Recommendations for Renaissance's RPS report. Staff reports that Renaissance is an electric services company in the state of Ohio, and thus had an RPS obligation for 2016. Staff found that Renaissance accurately calculated its compliance requirements for 2016. Staff reviewed Renaissance's attribute tracking system to verify compliance, and determined that because Renaissance did not satisfy its 2016 renewable obligations, an alternative compliance payment of \$1,046.25 is warranted. Therefore, Staff recommends that Renaissance be directed to remit payment in that amount, consistent with the requirement set forth in Ohio

Adm.Code 4901:1-40-08. Staff additionally recommends that certain procedures be followed in regards to making and documenting the payment. Finally, Staff recommends that, for future compliance years, Renaissance 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.

11

# C. Commission Conclusion

**[¶7]** Upon review of Renaissance's 2016 RPS report and the records of these proceedings, we adopt Staff's recommendations. We find that Renaissance's 2016 proposed compliance baseline is reasonable. We further find that Renaissance did not meet its 2016 compliance obligation, and therefore must make a \$1,046.25 alternative compliance payment. The payment should be directed to the PUCO, payable to "Treasurer State of Ohio." A letter should also be attached to the payment stating that it is a compliance payment required by R.C. 4928.64 for deposit to the credit of the Advanced Energy Fund, under the control of the Ohio Development Services Agency and created under R.C. 4928.61. The letter should also cite Case No. 17-1073-EL-ACP, under which the Commission has ordered the payment. The address for the PUCO is as follows: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215

**{¶ 8}** Renaissance is directed to comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years.

## III. ORDER

**[¶ 9]** It is, therefore,

**{¶ 10}** ORDERED, That, Renaissance shall, within thirty days, remit an alternative compliance payment of \$1,046.25 in accordance with the directives of Paragraph 7. It is, further,

 $\{\P 11\}$  ORDERED, That Renaissance comply with Staff's recommendations for future compliance years. It is, further,

....

**{¶ 12}** 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 Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Thomas W. Johnson

Daniel R. Conway

DEF/sc

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J. M. Neal

Barcy F. McNeal Secretary